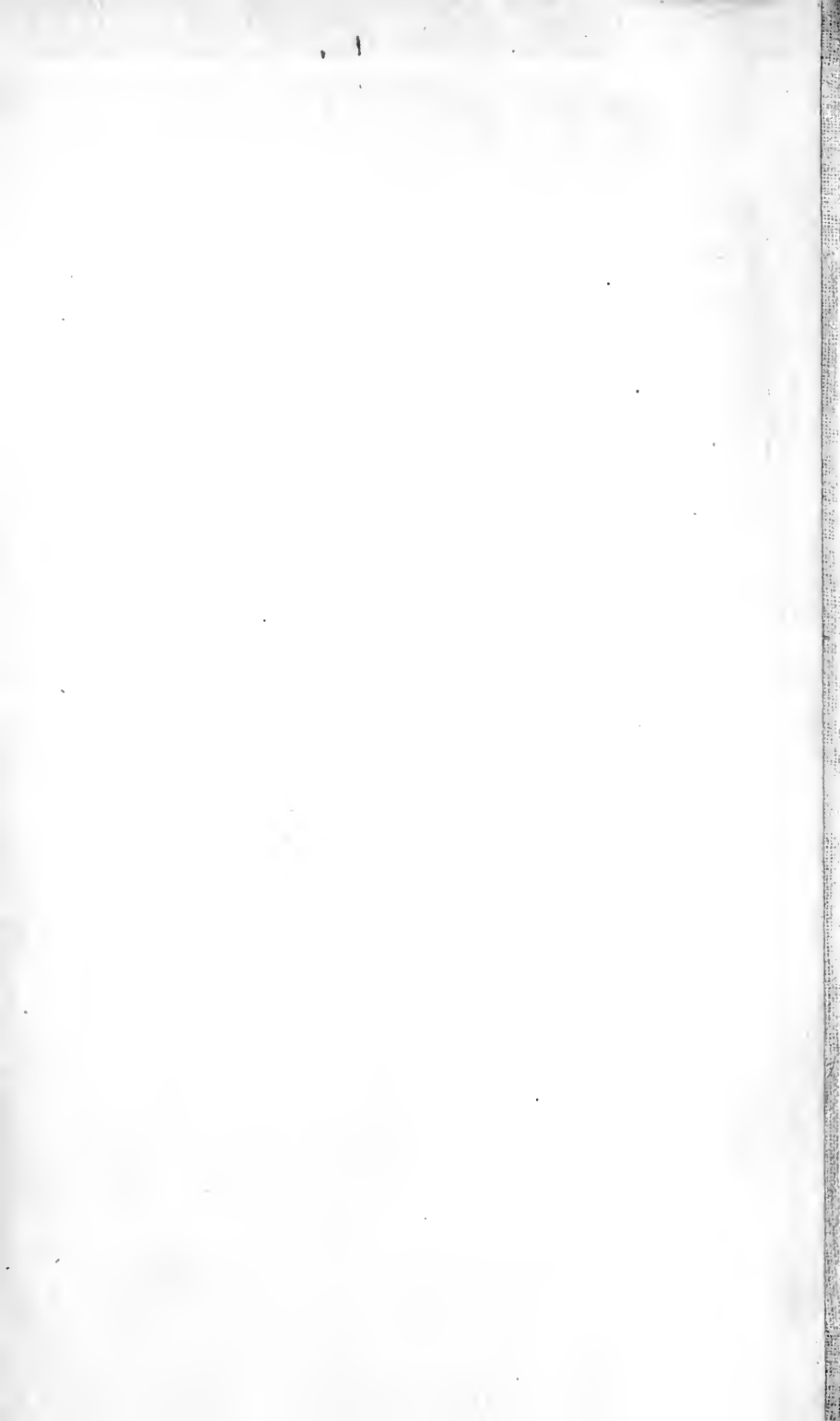


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# Royal Irish Academy.

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## POEMS FROM THE DINDSHENCHAS.

Text, Translation, and Vocabulary.

BY

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# CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PREFACE, . . . . .	v
LIST OF MANUSCRIPTS, . . . . .	ix
TEXT AND TRANSLATION:—	
RATH ESA, . . . . .	1
FAFFAND, . . . . .	10
ALMU, . . . . .	14
ATH CLIATH, . . . . .	20
ATH FADAT I., . . . . .	24
ATH FADAT II., . . . . .	28
ARD LEMNACHT, . . . . .	30
AILECH I., . . . . .	34
AILECH II., . . . . .	42
BEND ETAIR I., . . . . .	50
BEND ETAIR II., . . . . .	56
ABBREVIATIONS EMPLOYED, . . . . .	66
NOTES, . . . . .	66
VOCABULARY, . . . . .	89





## PREFACE.

THE collection of topological legends known as the *Dindshenchas* exists in two forms, prose and verse. The prose has been translated partially by various scholars, Petrie, O'Curry, O'Grady, and others ; completely by Stokes in volumes 15 and 16 of the *Revue Celtique*.

But the verse, which is much longer, which contains a great deal of matter not represented in the prose abstracts, and which is, as I believe, the material from which these abstracts were made, has been left to a great extent untouched. It seems to me desirable that a complete critical edition should be produced ; and this task I propose to undertake. The labour will, of course, be greatly assisted by Stokes' work ; and the tedious business of collation is much lighter for one who resides in Dublin, where nearly all MSS. of the *Dindshenchas* are preserved, than for Continental scholars.

Unfortunately when I first began to examine the poems I went to work in an unsystematic way. Instead of following any definite order I chose certain pieces quite at haphazard, as will appear by comparing those contained in this volume with Stokes' edition of the prose. For that reason I should

have preferred to postpone the publication of these poems and to begin—as I hope to do next year—with the *Dindshenchas* of Tara, which is the proper starting-point.

But the conditions of the Chair which I have the honour to hold require the lecturer to publish every year the texts on which he has discoursed; I accordingly comply, and hope that this slender volume will be regarded as merely tentative. Should I succeed in carrying through my project of a complete edition, the pieces here edited will reappear in their proper places.

In preparing my critical apparatus, I have thought it wiser to err on the side of fulness: so that I have recorded many readings which are obvious blunders. But I have not thought it necessary to record mere varieties of spelling when there could be no doubt that the same word was intended. When I wish to convey that different MSS. have the same reading, spelt differently, I use the symbol 'etc.' I have expanded contractions freely when there appeared to be no possibility of error. I have taken no account of MSS. (such as H<sub>2</sub>), which are copies of known *codices*, and therefore have no independent authority. In the case of the three poems (on Almu, Bend Etair (I.), and Ailech (I.)), which are found only in the *Book of Leinster*, I have thought it best to reproduce the MS. exactly; with the rest, as I had to construct a text of my own, I have introduced a uniformity of spelling which is not to be found in any *codex*: but I fear I have not succeeded in being thoroughly consistent.

In using LL, I have compared the facsimile with the MS. in each case, and have recorded the few errata I have observed.

My translation is, throughout, deliberately bald and literal, my object being to express clearly my interpretation rather than to secure literary finish.

In compiling the Vocabulary, it was my intention to include every word, however common, that is not to be found either in Windisch's *Wörterbuch*, or in Atkinson's *Glossary to the Passions and Homilies*. I have not tried to multiply examples, but merely to adduce sufficient authority (when it was forthcoming) for my interpretation.

I abstain, for the present, from any discussion of the MSS., their relations and their respective value; these topics, and others which relate to the *Dindshenchas* as a whole, I am not as yet in a position to discuss. I merely append a list of MSS. which contain copies of the *Dindshenchas*. No one of these copies is complete.

I have made continual use of Stokes' translation of the prose versions; and I have borrowed from him most of the translation of the first poem on Ath Fadat, as is duly acknowledged in the notes. I have to acknowledge the constant assistance and criticism of my friend and master Dr. Robert Atkinson.

EDWARD GWYNN.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN,

February, 1900.



MSS. CONTAINING THE "DINDSHENCHAS."

- LL = The Book of Leinster, Trinity College, Dublin: middle of twelfth century.
- R\* = The Rennes Codex; early fourteenth century (?). (See *Rev. C.* xv. 79; xvi. 450.)
- B = The Book of Ballymote, Royal Irish Academy: late fourteenth or early fifteenth century.
- Y = The Yellow Book of Lecan, Trinity College, Dublin; fifteenth century (?).
- Lc. = The Book of Lecan, Royal Irish Academy: late fifteenth or early sixteenth century.
- H<sub>1</sub> = Trinity College, Dublin, H. 3. 3; according to O'Donovan (Catalogue of MSS. in Trinity College) late sixteenth century; according to Stokes (*Rev. C.* xv. 273) fifteenth century.
- S<sub>1</sub> = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe Collection, D. II. 2; according to O'Conor thirteenth century: more probably (I think) fifteenth or sixteenth century.
- S<sub>2</sub> = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe Collection, B. III. 1: seventeenth century.
- V = Royal Irish Academy, Reeves Collection, 832, pp. 61-197: seventeenth century.

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\* I have not seen this MS.

x MSS. CONTAINING THE "DINDSHENCHAS."

H<sub>2</sub> = Trinity College, Dublin, H. 1. 15, p. 409 *seq.*; copy of B, written by Tadhg O'Neachtain in 1729.

H<sub>4</sub> = Trinity College, Dublin, H. 2. 15, p. 229 *seq.*; copy of H<sub>1</sub>: eighteenth or nineteenth century.

Bd. = Bodley Library, Rawlinson, B. 506, fol. 11-15, end of fourteenth or beginning of fifteenth century: contains only prose and single quatrains, with one poem on *Tailtiu*. (See Stokes, *Folk-Lore*, vol. III.)

Ed.\* = Advocates' Library in Edinburgh, Kilbride, xvi.; end of fifteenth century; contains only prose and single quatrains: see Stokes in *Folk-Lore*, vol. IV.

The following MSS. contain fragments of the *Dindshenchas* :--

S<sub>4</sub> = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe Collection, D. IV. 2, fol. 55, 56: written in 1300. (See Meyer, *Merugud Uilix*, v., and *Rev. C.*, xi. 435, *note*.)

S<sub>2</sub> = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe Collection, B. II. 2, 8 fol.

H<sub>3</sub> = Trinity College, Dublin, H. 1. 12, pp. 97-101.

Eg.\* = British Museum, Egerton, 1781, fol. 75. (See Stokes in *Folk-Lore*, vol. IV.)

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\* I have not seen this MS.

POEMS FROM THE DINDSHENCHAS.

## RATH ESA.

Sund dessid domunemar,  
iar tichtain bruthmar báire,  
ingen Ehdach Aireman  
ocus Étáine áine.

Ésa h-ainm na h-ingine ; 5  
is di atá Ráth Ésa ;  
cét cech mfl cen timdibe  
tucad lé, ba búaid m-béasa.

Midir ro-alt in find-ben-sin 10  
fri ól fina ocus meda ;  
nói m-bliadna dond ingin-sin  
i m-Brí Léith, láthar nena.

Tar cend Ehdach Aireman  
ruc Midir Étáin n-ólaig 15  
a Fremaind, ciarb airer-glan,  
co farcaib Banba m-brónaig.

Asbert Codal crín-chossach :  
“ Ní écen dúib a fochmarc ;  
i m-Brí Leith ar fír-thossach 20  
é leith luid-i for tochmarc.”

La tóeb Ehdach Aireman  
lótar slúaig Erend áine  
a Fremaind, ciarb airer-glan,  
do thogail Brí Léith láine.

---

LL B Y S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>V.    2. *tichtain*] tichtu LL.    6. *is di*] uaithi (-e) YS<sub>2</sub> ;  
is uaithi (-e) H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub>.    8. *búaid*] buan LL.    *mbéasa*] LL B ; mesa,  
messa, &c. *cæt.*    9. *ro-ait*] ro-n-alt S<sub>2</sub> ; dalt H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub>Y P    *ben*] mnai BS<sub>1</sub>.  
13. *Tar cend*] do chinn LL.    14. *n-ólaig*] eolaigh (-dh) S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>.    15. *airer-glan*]



## RATH ESA.

Here settled, as we believe,  
 after an eager coming to the goal,  
 the daughter of Eochu Airem  
 and of Etain the noble.

Esa was the name of the maid, 5  
 from her is Rath Esa called :  
 a hundred of every [sort of] beast without abatement  
 were brought by her who was best in haviour.

Midir kept the fair woman  
 with wine and mead to drink ; 10  
 nine years did the maiden spend  
 at Bri Leith, spot of the waves.

In spite of Eochu Airem  
 Midir bore off Etain over the wine  
 from Fremand, though it was a bright country ; 15  
 so she left Banba the mournful.

Said Codal of the withered foot :  
 " Ye need not to search for her ;  
 [look] in Bri Leith in the very first place ;  
 'tis thither she has gone a-wooing." 20

By the side of Eochu Airem  
 came the hosts of noble Erin  
 from Fremand, though it was a bright country,  
 to sack bright Bri Leith.

aireglan LL ; oreplan V.

16. *co farcaib*] co fargaib LL ; foragaib BS<sub>1</sub> ;for facaib, &c. YS<sub>2</sub>H<sub>1</sub> ; foraccaib V.19. *ar*] a YS<sub>1</sub> ; iar H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V.20. *é leth*] is é leth, &c. H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> ; is and S<sub>1</sub>.*luidi*] doluidh S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> ; luid H<sub>1</sub> ;luide LL. 23. *airerglan*] aireglan LL ; ore . . glan Y ; oiredh glan S<sub>1</sub> ; ainsiuab S<sub>2</sub>.

Nóí mblíadna 'con togail-sin, nírbo ro-mór a h-oibne ; Midir ocon dlomad-sin, oc admilliud na h-oipre.	25
Iar togail in t-shída-sin doluid cóica fer fuilngech, (ropo delbda in díne-sin) d'acallaim na ríg ruibnech.	30
Tuctha and dia cétaíne ba scél n-irdaire ro-chúala) do Echdaig i richt Étaíne tri fichit ban, bríg búada.	35
Is díb-sin do-róega-seom a ingin fír-glain fessin ; ba gó aní ro-máide-seom, conid sí dál for-sn-dessid.	40
Sí-sein ruc Mes m-Buachalla máthair Conaire céillig ; ba dál amnas fuachalda ro-s-alt for síl n-ard n-Emir.	
Dia luid Eochaid atherruch do thogail Brí Léith láine tuc a mnái iar n-athelluch ó Midir, monur n-áine.	45
Is and-sin do-r-imgart-seom a enecland for Midir Eochaid fírén find-balc-som, co no-s-ruc iar n-dáil dligid.	50

25. 'con] don YH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>. 26. oibne] opre (vel n *superscr.*) LL.  
 dlomad] doloim LL; dolum B; dolamd S<sub>1</sub>. 30. fuilngech] furmech, &c.  
 LLYS<sub>2</sub>. 31. delbda] dédla Y? S<sub>2</sub> V; détla S<sub>1</sub>. 33. and] om. LLB.  
 36. tri fichit] .lll. LL. 37. díb] LL; and *cat.* 39. aní] an LL. ni  
 S<sub>3</sub>; inní S<sub>1</sub>. ro *maid*] LL; romaíd H<sub>1</sub>; romuidh V; romaigi Y; imaigi S<sub>2</sub>;

- Nine years were they about this sacking; 25  
 its speed was not very great.  
 Midir kept repulsing them  
 [and] kept destroying their works.
- After the sack of the fairy fort  
 there came fifty hardy men, 30  
 (transshaped was this tribe)  
 to talk with the slaughtering kings.
- Then were brought on a Wednesday  
 ('twas a famous tale I heard)  
 to Eochu, in the form of Etain, 35  
 three score of women, a victorious force.
- From them he chose out  
 his own right pure daughter ;  
 false was the declaration [Midir] made  
 that this was the compact agreed upon. 40
- She it was bare Mes Buachalla  
 mother of wise Conaire,  
 ([his] was a cruel fate, told in story)  
 she reared him [to rule] over Emir's high race.
- When Eochu came again 45  
 to sack bright Bri Leith  
 he bore off his wife after restitution made  
 from Midir—glorious feat !
- 'Twas then he demanded  
 his honour-fine from Midir-- 50  
 did Eochu the upright, the fair and strong—  
 and obtained it after award by law.

---

romaidhedh S<sub>3</sub>; romaighedh S<sub>1</sub>; domaidid B. 40. *conid*] conad, &c.  
 YS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>V. s<sub>1</sub>] LL; i, &c. *cæt.* 41-44.] *om.* S<sub>1</sub>. 42. *céillig*] chelig  
 LL; cebl (i ceill) B; ceolaig, &c. YS<sub>2</sub>. 43. *ddl amnas*] LL; scél  
 n-irdaire *cæt.* *fuachalda*] LL; nuachalla BSY<sub>2</sub>; nuachalda H<sub>1</sub>; nuacoñ S<sub>3</sub>V.  
 44. *ait*] elt LL. *sil*] sluag LL. *Emir*] Eogain YS<sub>2</sub>; E<sup>b</sup> B.  
 45. *dia*] LL; do *cæt.* 52. *cono-s-ruc*] LL comoruc, &c. *cæt.*

- Is é-so in cetharda  
do-róegai Eochaid Airem,  
co n-ilur drong drech-fherda, 55  
co lín scíath ocus claideb.
- Tochur tar móin Lámraigi,  
fid tar Brefni co feochra,  
dichlochad más mór-Midi,  
ocus luachair tar Tebtha. 60
- “ A ingin do-m-imgair-se ”  
ar Eochaid “ ráid ’sind úair-se  
cia dindgna dom dindgnaib-se  
co-s-no-tidnastar úaim-se.”
- Is andsin do-róega-si 65  
Rath n-Ésa, fál fri find-blai,  
suide asa soerfad-si  
as-n-aicfed na tri dindgnai.
- Síd in Broga belgaig-se,  
in tress-dindgna cóir cétach, 70  
Duma n-Giall is’ Temraig-se,  
Dún Cain Crimthaind i n-Étar.
- Is and-sin do-r-idnacht-si  
ó Echdaig, rád cen fhulla,  
co cach neoch do-r-imgart-si, 75  
co n-ilar a sét sunda.
- Midir iar cúl mithisi  
doluid imon dáil n-détla  
co Echdaig doridisi,  
imon caingen cóir cétna. 80

54. *do-róegai*] LL; do-r-*imgart cat.* 53. *so*] sin LL. 55. *drech-fherda*] decharda LL; n-drearcharda &c. YS<sub>1</sub>. 57. *tar*] for LL. 58. *tar*] for LL. 59. *mór*] mar, &c. S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 60. *tar*] for LL. 61. *domingair*] domringair LL. 64. *cosnotidnastar*] cosatidnastar, . &c. BS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>V; gustignastar (*with* in uairse) S<sub>2</sub>. 66. *fál*] LL S<sub>2</sub>; fial *cat.* 67. *asa soerfad*] B; as na soerad LL; as a sailfead, &c. Y H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: as a sailfi, &c. S<sub>3</sub>V. 68. *aicfed*]

This is the fourfold demand  
 that Eochu Airem made  
 with a numerous band of manly visages, 55  
 with tale of shields and swords :

A causeway across the bog of Lamraige,  
 a wood growing wild over Brefne,  
 quarrying of stones throughout the Bottom of Mor-Mide,  
 [cutting of] rushes over Tethba. 60

“ O daughter demand of me ”  
 said Eochu ; “ tell me now  
 which fortress of my fortresses [thou desirest],  
 and it shall be bestowed by me.”

Then it was she chose 65  
 Rath Esa, precinct of fair ground,  
 a seat whence she might give protection,  
 whence she might see the three fortresses.

Sid in Broga of the roads,  
 the fort of war built aright, fit for a hundred, 70  
 Duma Giall in Tara,  
 Dun Cain Crimthaid in Howth.

Then was [the Rath] bestowed  
 by Eochu—a promise without delusion—  
 with everything she demanded, 75  
 with plenty of his treasure therein.

Midir after the expiry of truce  
 came, about the bold award  
 to Eochu once more,  
 about the same just business. 80

accad LL. 69. *belgaig*] belgnaid, &c. BYS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>; belc̄c̄ V; braenaid (?) S<sub>2</sub>.  
 70. *in*] i LL. *cetach*] LL; cedsāt (?) B; cetsaith (?) Y; cetna, &c. *cæt*.  
 71. *nGiall is'*] LL; n Giall sa Y; nG·sin S<sub>1</sub>; naG·is S<sub>2</sub>; nanG·sa BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>V.  
 73–76.] *not in* LL. 74. *rád*] dail S<sub>2</sub>. 75. *neoch*] ní &c. YS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V  
 77. *cúl*] coll LL. 78. *imon*] mo LL. *n-détla*] détlā LL; n-délla *cæt*.  
 79. *doridisi*] LL; afrithisi &c. *cæt*.

Gaid Midir in find-bile  
 móles dían mondernta  
 Sigmall mac a ingine,  
 fail i Síd nóithech Nennta.

Ogniad ainm a máthar-som, 85  
 ingen-side do Midir ;  
 nochon olc a láthar-som  
 cen descin cirt na dligid.

Rucad Étáin airer-glan  
 siar, ciarbo tolcda in tustiu, 90  
 la cend Ehdach Aireman,  
 co m-bói i Síd Nenta iar n-uscú.

Atá thiar in slúag drongach  
 oc Sigmall, síd cen fhulla,  
 oc ua Midir mór-glonnaig, 95  
 ocus ní thoracht sunda.

81. *móles*] LL moleis S<sub>1</sub>; molais S<sub>2</sub>; imoles S<sub>3</sub>; imoles V; moales, &c. BH<sub>1</sub>; modoles Y. *dian*] LL; indail S<sub>2</sub>; ni Y; n-dian *cæt. mondernta*] LL; mandernta S<sub>2</sub>; condernta B; condernta, &c. *cæt.* 87. *lathar*] luthar LL.

88. *descin*] LL; decain, &c. YS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>; dethin, &c. BH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V.

89. *airer-glan*]

Midir prayed the fair scion

Sigmall his daughter's son  
who was at noble Sid Nenta.

Ogniad [was] his mother's name ; 85  
she was daughter to Midir ;  
not evil was her disposition  
though she knew not rule nor law.

Etain of the bright country was borne 90  
to the West, though proud was her birth,  
with the head of Eochu Airem ;  
so she was in Sid Nenta beyond the water.

In the West is the numerous host  
with Sigmall,—a fairy place without magic craft—  
with the grandson of Midir of great deeds ; 95  
and it returned not hither.

aireglan LL ; oiredhglan S<sub>1</sub> ; airedglan H<sub>1</sub>.  
toleda] tolc YS<sub>1</sub> ; olc S<sub>2</sub>. 91. la] ro LL.  
ichu B ; ec.h. Y ; icuadh S<sub>2</sub> ; ag ua S<sub>1</sub>V ; ac ua H<sub>1</sub>.  
tainic, &c. cæt.

90. cia] gu B ; ni S<sub>2</sub>.  
95. ic ua] hicou LL ;  
96. toracht] &c. LL S<sub>2</sub> ;

## FAFFAND.

Broccaid brogmar co n-gnám gíall  
do cined gorm-glan Galán,  
dó ba mac Faifne in file,  
ní gó taithme tiug-mire.

Ba hí máthair in meic maiss 5  
Libir ind láthair lond-braiss ;  
ingen dóib in dían dírmach  
ind Aige fhíal il-gnímach.

Oll-mass in cethrur cáem cass ;  
ba clethchur sáer co so-gnas ; 10  
ingen is máthair co n-áeb,  
athair is mac co mór-áeb.

Tucsat na siabra síde ;—  
nír gnám tiamda teithmíre ;  
delbsat i n-deilb láig allaid 15  
Aigi saer co serc-ballaib.

Ro-shír hErend or i n-or  
ria cách n-albín rúad ro-gor,  
co-r-chúardaig Banba brethaig  
co calma fo chaém-chethair. 20

Tarnic a gnám is a gal,  
fríth sund co sír a sernad ;  
tucsat i m-brianna i m-bine  
Fianna Meilgi Imlige.

De-sin atá Aige úar 25  
ar sruth in maige met-snúad ;  
ó ro-s-cráided cen cuisle,  
ro-s-dáiled ar dían-uisce.

---

LL B Y S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>. 1. *brogmar*] brodmar S<sub>1</sub>. *con*] cen (gan) BS<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>; con ('vel gan' *superscr.*) Y. *gíall*] gial LL; n-gíall B. 2. *cined*] chungid LL.  
4. *taithme*] H<sub>1</sub>; taichme (taicmi) BYS<sub>3</sub>; taichle LL. *tiugmire*] tigm . . iri Y;  
tigmire S<sub>3</sub>; acht (*inserted*) tigmire B; acht tigmire H<sub>1</sub>. 6. *lond-braiss*] lond-mais  
BYS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>; læchmais S<sub>1</sub>. 8. *ind Aige fhíal*] ind Aigi f. LL; in f. A. BYS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>;  
in fh. Ainge S<sub>1</sub>. *il-*] oll- YS<sub>1</sub>. 11. *ingen*] LL; athair *cæt*. 12.] ingen  
is brathair blath-cain BYS<sub>1</sub>; in. i. b. bl.-caem H<sub>1</sub>. 14. *teithmire*] LL; teidmiri



FAFFAND.

Broccaid the powerful with winning of hostages,  
of the pure and famous race of the Galian,  
he had a son, Faifne the poet ;  
not false is the account of his final madness.

It was she was the mother of the comely son,— 5  
even Libir quick and eager of mood :  
their daughter was the swift lady of the hosts  
Aige, the noble and skilful.

Exceeding fair were the four, curled and gentle ;  
they were a noble kin, of virtuous behaviour, 10  
the daughter and the mother were lovely,  
the father and the son of great beauty.

The spirits of the faery caught them,  
(not feeble the deed . . . . . ) ;  
they changed into the form of a wild doe 15  
the noble Aige of the love-spots.

She traversed Erin from shore to shore  
[fleeing] before all the red and fiery packs ;  
so that she coursed round Banba, land of judges,  
bravely, in the form of a fair beast. 20

Her doings and her valiance had an end,  
here was done her final dismembering ;  
they tore her in pieces in their wickedness  
did the Fians of Meilge of Imlech.

Hence is the name of chill Aige 25  
given to the river of the wide-stretching plain  
since she was tortured without struggle  
and flung upon the flowing water.

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Y; acht teidmire H<sub>1</sub> S<sub>3</sub>; acht teemire B. 16. *sere-*] sith- YS<sub>1</sub>. 18. *ria*] re  
S<sub>1</sub>; ro BY. *albin*] albain B; aillin Y. 19. *corchuardaig*] corchuardaig LL.  
22. *sund*] om. LL. *sernad*] særnad B; srácnadh S<sub>1</sub>. 23. *in mbrianda*] a  
mbrianda YS<sub>1</sub>; a mbriana S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 24. *Imlige*] imilige B; milidi Y; milidhe S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.  
25-28. This stanza is quoted in the prose Ds. LL 160. 26. *ar*] for LL [191].  
*met-*] meit- LL [160], med- *cæt*. 27. *chuiscle*] chuis gle LL [191] S<sub>3</sub>.  
28. *ar*] in (?) Y.

<p>Sruith-lind-sin cen bás co bráth, snás dar Lifi co lond-gnáth ; mothaire tairm oc a thich, Aige a h-ainm in each inbaid.</p>	80
<p>Mos-lúi star i n-a shide in drúi dían in deg-fhile, d' ainmed ríg Beirri co m-blaid, Meilge meic Cobthaig cundail.</p>	85
<p>Fúacrais ar in ríg co recht anim is ón i n-óen-fhecht, is aithis fri sír-gail sethad i n-dígail a deg-shethar.</p>	40
<p>Do-ro-chair in file féig dind fhochaind amnais acbéil ; ro-mairned co sír segma ar ainmed ríg ro-Themra.</p>	45
<p>Ro-curad ro-sedlad se, ro-dedlad fri doenmige ; i Faffaind na Fiann ferggach fúair grafaínd dían dibergach.</p>	45
<p>Ro-s-gaid im ascaid andsin, áitt im asclaig inmílid ; co-m-beth fria gairm—gním n-guba— a ainm sír in sen-duma.</p>	50
<p>Is eol dam fri tibri tra aided Libri is Broccada ; ní h-amdarc in fáth dia fail ráth i-n' ro-adnacht Broccaid.</p>	55

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29. *cen bás*] gabhus S<sub>1</sub>. 30. *snás*] snass LL; súas S<sub>1</sub>. 31. *mothaire*] mo tairi Y; mod taire H<sub>1</sub> (?); modh taire S<sub>1</sub>; modtairi B; madh taire S<sub>3</sub>. *tairm*] LL; ní tairm *cæt.* *oc a thich*] LL; cen thaig B; cen toig S<sub>3</sub>; can toigh H<sub>1</sub>; gantaigh YS<sub>1</sub>. 33. *i n-a*] inna LL; marcach BY; mar gach S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 35. *Beirri* Y] *berri* LL.B; bere S<sub>1</sub>; berra S<sub>3</sub>; be. . H<sub>1</sub>. 39. *is aithis*] 's athais H<sub>1</sub>; athais Y; sadhair S<sub>3</sub>. 40. *shethair*] shethar LL; athair B. 41. *féig*] feidh Y; fedh S<sub>1</sub>.

That ancient stream is deathless till Doomsday,  
which pours across Life in furious temper 30

. . . . .  
Aige is its name for all time.

Westward came, borne on his blast,  
the swift druid, the skilled poet,  
to blemish the famous king of Bearra, 35  
Meilge, son of kindly Cobthach.

He denounced rightfully upon the king  
reproach and shame together,  
and disfigurement with lasting stain of skin  
in revenge for his sweet sister. 40

The keen poet fell  
by the harsh and horrid cause ;  
he was betrayed once and for all  
in blemishing the king of high Tara.

He was chastised, he was . . . . . 45  
he was parted from his misery ;  
in Faffand the wrathful Fians'  
swift pursuit found the outlaw.

There he craved a boon  
that the place for the sake of the martial burden 50  
should be called after him—O deed of woe !  
[and that] the ancient hill should bear his name for ever.

Known to me with . . . . .  
is the [story of the] death of Libir and Broccaid ;  
not obscure is the cause whence is [named] 55  
the rath where Broccaid was buried.

41-48. These stanzas are quoted in the prose Ds. LL 160. 43. *segma*] sedma  
(seadma) YS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 46. *dedlad*] deglad YS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *fri*] ra LL [191] ;  
ri LL [160] ; co &c. BYS<sub>1</sub> ; co n- S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 47. *i*] for LL. *dian*] na n- LL.  
50. *im asclaig*] immasclaid YS<sub>3</sub> ; immasclaith H<sub>1</sub>. *in*] im LL. 52. *sen-*] saer-  
LL. 53. *tra*] om. LL. 55. *ní h-amdarc*] LL ; níarmdocht YS<sub>1</sub> ;  
níarmdacht BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.

## ALMU.

Almu Lagen, les na Fían,  
port ra-gnathaig Fínd fir-fhial,  
dórala sund a sliect sain  
inúnní d'atá Almu ar Almáin.

Almu ainm in d fhir ro-s-gab 5  
re lind Nemid na nert-blad ;  
marb thall sin tilaig úane,  
do thám opund oen-uaire.

Almu rop alaínd in ben  
ben Nuadat móir mhic Aiched 10  
ra chunig, ba fír in dál,  
a ainm ar in enoce comlán.

Nuadu drúí ba duni garg ;  
darónad leis Dún Dronard ;  
ra comled leis almu i n-aill 15  
don dún ule ar n-a thoraind

Oen-gel in dún dremne drend  
mar na gabad éil h-Erend ;  
dond alamain tuc d'a thaig  
is de atá Almu ar Almáin. 20

Tadc mac Nuadat, nertaid gail,  
drúí Cathair Moir cu mór-blaid,  
dó ra fhacaib a athair  
Almuin co n-a h-ard-rathaib.

Ingen gnoach oc Tadc thrén, 25  
darb ainm Murni mun-chám ;  
ro-cunged o Chumull in ben ;  
ro-s-éarstar Tadc tæb-gel.

## ALMU.

Almu of the Leinstermen, a fort of the Fians,  
 an abode that Find the truly noble used to frequent :  
 there happened to be there, sprung from a high line,  
 the woman from whom Almu is so called.

Almu is the name of the man who got [the place] 5  
 before the time of Nemid of mighty renown ;  
 he died there on the green hill  
 of a sudden sickness in a moment.

Almu, beautiful was the woman !  
 the wife of Nuadu Mor son of Achi ; 10  
 she entreated—just was the award—  
 that her name should be on the faultless hill.

Nuadu the druid was a fierce man ;  
 by him was built Dun Dronard ;  
 by him was rubbed *almu* on the rock 15  
 for the whole fort, to mark it out.

All white is the fort of bitter battle ;  
 since he could not get Irish lime,  
 from the *alamu* he put on his house  
 thence is Almu so named. 20

Tade son of Nuadu, whom valour strengthened,  
 the druid of Cathar Mór with great fame,  
 to him his father left  
 Almu with her high raths.

Tade the strong had a lovely daughter 25  
 whose name was Murni White-Neck ;  
 the woman was demanded by Cumall ;  
 Tade the white-sided refused him.

Ra-s-uc Cumull ar écin,  
 ingin Taide cer gním étig ; 30  
 bliadain can chert is can chlód  
 do Murni ic Cumull chath-mór.

Cíis Tade ca tren-athach  
 re Cond calma cét-chathach,  
 ro-n-imderg, abdul in t-olc, 35  
 ro-n-glám, ba mór in mudocht.

Focairther o Chund chalma  
 do Chumull facbáil Banba ;  
 co-r-churset cath Cnucha thall,  
 co torchair re Cond Cumall. 40

Nói tráth re cur in chatha  
 da rónad fer in ratha  
 re h-ingin Taide in tæib-gil,  
 dar-ronad Find fír-fhennid.

Luid Murni ar marbad a fir,  
 cu ránic Almain n-oen-gil ; 45  
 ba cainteoh cumthach 'ra bæi ;  
 nirbo dethbir don deg-mnáí.

Alaind báí in rígan cu rath,  
 ocus si thæb-lán torrach ; 50  
 ra-fhocair Tade, mór in mod,  
 a marbad am-mudugod.

Ro-raid Cond co n-gili glæce :  
 “ Ba ferr lim co m-béra mæce,  
 inund máthair cor-rathaib . 55  
 do Chumall is do m'athair.”

Diultaider ic Taide co trén ;  
 do Murni ba domna dér ;  
 ar nír-lamair a labrad,  
 am-milliud, nó am-moch-marbad. 60

Cumall carried her off by force  
 the daughter of Tadc, though it was a treacherous deed ; 30  
 a year without rite and without rape  
 did Murni spend with Cumall the warrior.

Tadc wept with heavy groaning  
 before Cond the brave of the hundred fights  
 He taunted him—enormous the evil !— 35  
 he satirised him,—great was the slaying !

Sentence is given by Cond the brave  
 against Cumall that he should leave Banba ;  
 so they fought the battle of Cnucha there,  
 and Cumall fell before Cond. 40

Nine hours before the battle was fought  
 was conceived the Man of the Rath ;  
 by the daughter of Tadc the white-sided  
 Find the true warrior was conceived.

Murni came after the slaying of her husband, 45  
 and fared to Almu the all-white ;  
 pitiable was the garb in which she was,  
 it was not fitting for a well-born lady.

Lovely and gracious was the princess,  
 and she [was] great with child ; 50  
 Tadc threatened (great the deed !)  
 to kill and make an end of them.

Said Cond of the white palm :  
 “ I hold it better she should bear a son ;  
 the same mother, with all her charms, 55  
 had Cumall and my father.”

Vehement denial is made by Tadc,  
 (to Murni it was cause of tears)  
 since he did not dare [to do] what he spoke of  
 their destruction or their early slaying. 60

Dolluid co Temair *findfail*  
 Murni mun-*chain* enis . . . .  
 coro-iarfaig do Chund can chol  
 a h-imthús a h-ordugod.

“Imthig-siu,” ar Cond, “is ced lind 65  
 co Fiacail Fí mac *Con* Chind  
 der-fur Cumail tall istaig  
 Bodmall B . . . .”

Dolluid co Temraig Margi 70  
 Murni mun-chai[m] cu n-ardi ;  
 Conla gilla Chuind can chol  
 ca . . . . d'a ordugod.

Ba fælid ria in gilla grind  
 in Fiacail Bi mac *Con* Chind,  
 ba fælid Bodmall cu becht, 75  
 ba fælid uile in t-airecht.

Ar sain rucad Find febda  
 rí na Fian, mór a menma ;  
 nóí m-bliadna, mod tend,  
 rop é rig-fhénnid h-Erend 80

Cungis Find ar Tade na tor  
 íc Cumall móir do marbad  
 cath can chardi dó, can dáil,  
 nó comrac oen-fhir d'fhagbáil.

Tade uair nir-thualaing catha 85  
 i n-agaid ind fhír-fhlátha,  
 ro-fhácaib leis, ba lór dó,  
 mar ro-bái uile Almó. A.



She came to Temair's fair territory  
 Murni White-Neck . . .—Skin ;  
 she asked the blameless Cond  
 of her destiny and her disposal.

“ Go thou,” said Cond, “ it is good in my eyes— 65  
 to Fiacail Fí son of Conchend  
 the own-sister of Cumall dwells with him  
 Bodmall . . . .”

She went to Temair Margi,  
 did Murni White-Neck the high-born ; 70  
 Conla servant of Cond the blameless  
 . . . . to dispose of her.

Joyful to see her was the comely youth  
 Fiacail Fí son of Conchend ;  
 joyful was Bodmall, right heartily, 75  
 joyful was the whole company.

Thereafter was born Find the honoured,  
 king of the Fians, high his spirit !  
 nine years precisely  
 was he the royal champion of Erin. 80

Find demanded from Tadc of the towers,  
 a price for killing Cumall Mor,  
 battle without respite without delay,  
 or to get a duel with him man to man.

Tadc, since he could not face battles 85  
 against the true-born prince,  
 abandoned to him (it was enough for him)  
 All Almu as it stood.

## ATH CLIATH.

Ath Cliath fégaíd lib coléic,  
a thúir imthéit Gáedel gnáth,  
cia láech cia laiches ro-dm-brat ?  
dorat a ainm forsín áth.

Cin mná Adaim do-s-rat forn 5  
an míl cen chond cluithi-drenn ;  
cian ó do-r-airngert in drúí  
in béist ro-búi for Lice Bend.

In béist ro-búi for Lice Bend, 10  
secht fichit coss, cethri chend ;  
ro-siacht a colpa as cach áitt ;  
ro-slig Bóand corbo glend.

In béist dia ro-fhás in cael,  
diamsat h-eol i n-ilib óc,  
in míl ingnad ro-gab tass, 15  
ro-slas i m-Bruig meic ind Óc.

Cia sáer ro-fích in cléith  
in a méit do-s-fuc 'sin áth ;  
cade in chliath is ingnad lind ;  
meraid i lind co tí bráth. 20

Curach a chléib ro lá cor  
im h-Erind (ó r'finnad cách),  
co-no-s-forlúaid in muir mer ;  
iarum do-s-ceir isin áth.

---

LLB Lc S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 1. *coléic*] coléir B. 2. *imthéit*] tet B; teit nan S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>;  
tead (thed) an LcS<sub>1</sub>. 3. *ro-dm-brat*] rod in brad Lc; rod in bráth S<sub>1</sub>.  
5. *cin*] cluichi B. *do-s-rat*] durad B; dorad H<sub>1</sub>. *forn*] f LL;  
fr B; fn S<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>; forñ LC. 6. *an míl*] S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub> nammil LL; amniu B; amucen  
Lc; amochen S<sub>1</sub>. *cen*] caem Lc; cein S<sub>1</sub>. *chond*] corn B; om. Lc S<sub>1</sub>.  
7. *dorairngert*] dothairngir S<sub>1</sub>; rothairngir Lc. 10. *secht*] cóic S<sub>1</sub>.  
11. *a*] LcS<sub>1</sub>; om. *cæt*. *colpa*] colptha LLBS<sub>3</sub>. *as cach áitt*] LL; s a dóit  
S<sub>1</sub> (*perhaps rightly*); a toaid B; a toait uill S<sub>3</sub>; a touith uill H; cem cam Lc.

## ATH CLIATH.

Ath Cliath see now for yourselves ;  
 O prince that guardest ever the Gaedels !  
 who is the hero, who the dame that made it captive ?  
 he has given its name to the ford.

The sin of Adam's wife brought upon us 5  
 the beast devoid of reason, horrid-sporting ;  
 'tis long since the seer foretold  
 the beast that was on Lecc Benn.

The beast that was on Lecc Benn 10  
 had seven score feet, four score heads ;  
 its shank reached out from every point ;  
 it clave Boyne so that it became a valley.

The beast when its maw swelled  
 . . . . .  
 the wondrous beast, it found rest ; 15  
 it was slain at Brug meic ind Oc.

Who was the artificer who planted the stakes ?  
 in their multitude he set them in the ford ;  
 where is the palisade ? 'tis a wonder to us :  
 it shall abide in the pool till the coming of Doom. 20

The vessel of his chest took a cast  
 round Erin (whence every one knew of it)  
 and the restless sea tossed it ;  
 and thereafter it fell into the ford.

13. *ro-fhás*] roas LLB. *cael*] cail LLB ; caol S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 14. *diamsat*] LL ;  
 diamdat BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub> ; diamdar Lc ; diamtar S<sub>1</sub>. *in ilib*] milibh B. 16. *slas*] las  
 LcS<sub>1</sub>. *i*] for LLB. 17. *saer*] saera LcS<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *ro-fich*] ro fich S<sub>3</sub> ;  
 ro faid LcH<sub>1</sub> ; ro fháidh S<sub>1</sub> ; ro saer B. 18. *in a meit*] in met H<sub>1</sub> ; risa med  
 S<sub>3</sub> ; nonaemaid Lc ; inraenmuir S<sub>1</sub>. 20. *meraid*] LL ; maraid *cæt*.  
 22. *ó r'fínnad*] *om*. B or findaigh S<sub>1</sub> or fínnad LL. 23. *conosforluaid*]  
 conisfoluaig S<sub>1</sub>. 24.] *om*. B. *doisceir*] docear S<sub>1</sub>. *iarum*] iarsin S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.

[Rí na n-dúili, forum n-án, coimsig rúine do cách óen, flaith na folad, mac mo Dé, is é adcomad cach cael].	25
Innis dam, a Mongáin maiss, úair it eolach cech iarn-bais cia lín do-ro-chair (is glé) i tulaig na segainne.	30
A búaid hErind dar dá ler a mind Alband fitir cách, mebar latt, a breó dond h-I aní do-s-fuc isin áth.     A.	35

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25-28.] *om.* LL.     25. *dúili*] uili BS<sub>1</sub>.     27. *na folad*] folad fa Lc;  
naufoluth S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.     28. *adcomad*] atcomad S<sub>3</sub>; notcomaid Lc.     29. *maiss*] mín  
LcS<sub>1</sub>.     30. *uair*] *om.* Lc S<sub>1</sub>.     *it*] ad BLcS<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.     *iarn-baiss*] ern-baiss  
LLS<sub>3</sub>; ern-mais *cæt.*; LcS<sub>1</sub> *ad* áin.     31. *dorochair*] itocair B; adrochair Lc.

[The king of the elements (beautiful motion !)  
the Lord of mysteries to each man,  
the Prince of Nature, the Son of my God,  
He it is that lacerated every belly.] 25

Relate to me O comely Mongan,  
since thou art versed in every death by steel, 30  
what number fell ('tis clear),  
on the Hill of the Does.

O pride of Erin over two seas,  
O diadem of Scotland whom all men know,  
dost thou remember, O light from Iona, 35  
the thing he set in the ford ?

*is glé*] *om.* LLS<sub>3</sub>; as *gle* LcS<sub>1</sub>.

32. *i tulaig*] “*itulaig de*” LL.

*na segainne*] *na seghain de* H<sub>1</sub>; *na seghsa sámh* S<sub>1</sub>; *ni sedsa saim* Lc.

33. *dar dá*] *cota* LL; *dorad* Lc; *dorat* S<sub>1</sub>.

35. *dond hI*] *dona* BLcS<sub>1</sub>; *do*

*nim* H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>.

36. *do-s-fuc*] *dosfig* S<sub>3</sub>; *dusfic* H<sub>1</sub>.

## ATH FADAT I.

ETAN *cecinit.*

Monúar ní for-t-áthaig  
ní ba deoch di bláthaig,  
ní béra for máthair  
mac ó-shin immach.

Fadat ó Loch Lurgan,  
atber frib in t-augtar,  
do faeth do gai bulgach  
fri Laigni i cath.

5

FADAT *cecinit.*

Ticfa Dóe, ní dínech,  
co leind is co mílech  
co n-arm daigrech dírech  
do chur coscair chrúaid ;

10

Ticfa Caichni chabsaid  
co n-arm ágmar arsaid  
ragaid dar for n-amsaig  
is hí béras búaid.

15

ETAN *cecinit.*

Is é a fhír nach fetar  
ní-dom-geibend ecal  
dom leod nó dom letrad  
i cath chlaidbech chrúaid.

20

dofaethsaid dom tháthlaib,  
is dofaeth for m-bráthair ;  
ro-sia co for máthair ;  
is mé béras búaid.

LL BB Lc. YS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>V.  
dainech H<sub>1</sub> ; daoinech S<sub>3</sub>V.  
15. *amsaig*] amsaib BLcYS<sub>1</sub>.

9. *dínech*] doeneoch LcS<sub>1</sub>Y (?) ;  
11. *dírech*] thirech LL. 14. *arm*] ág LL.  
17. *dom*] dam LL. *geibend*]

## ATH FADAT I.

## ETAN.

Alas, the thing that comes upon you  
will be no draught of buttermilk !  
your mother shall not bear  
a son from this time forth.

Fadat from Loch Lurgan 5  
(the author declares to you)  
shall fall by a broad-headed spear  
before the Leinstermen in battle.

## FADAT.

Doe shall come—no healing draught !  
with brooch and with mantle, 10  
with a fiery straight weapon  
to win a ruthless victory.

Caichni the steadfast shall come  
with a warlike ancient weapon ;  
she will make a way through your troops ; 15  
'tis she will gain the day.

## ETAN.

This is the truth of it which thou knowest not,  
there never touches me fear  
of my wounding or mangling  
in the stern encounter of swords. 20

Ye shall fall by my sling-stone,  
and your brother shall fall ;  
he shall go back to your mother ;  
'tis I shall gain the day.

---

gabann S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>V.      19. *letrad*] The facsimilist of LL has mistaken a peculiar form of *d* for the usual contraction of *air*.      22. *do-faeth for*] do thuit (thoit) mo S<sub>1</sub>Lc ; do faigh mo Y (?).

FADAT *cecinit.*

Hé do díl a dáer-fhir ! 25  
 ní-don-coisfét Gáedil ;  
 do chlaideb féin foendil  
 tescfas díť do chend.

Do-t-rua Dóe na n-dond-bratt,  
 ocus Caichni chomnart, 30  
 is Fadat fer fond-bale ;  
 bíđ comrac tri tend.

ETAN *cecinit.*

Is mise in caur céťach  
 ó shlúag adbul éťťach ;  
 am draic díni n-drechtach ; 35  
 derb is dam is dual.

Tucus mór do chathaib ;  
 ní gebat frim athaig ;  
 torchair lim for n-athair,  
 taeth in mac, monuar ! 40

26. *don*] dom Le YS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>V. 27. *foendil*] om. LL. 28. *tescfas*] tescas  
 LL. 32. *tend*] ceand B. 29. *dond-bratt*] dronbratt LL. 34. *ó*] co



## FADAT.

Woe for thy fate, O wretch ! 25  
 The Gaels will not stop us ;  
 'tis thine own errant sword  
 shall cut off thine head.

Doe of the brown cloaks shall come to thee,  
 and Caichne of equal strength, 30  
 and Fadat, firm-set hero ;  
 there shall be a conflict with three strong ones.

## ETAN.

'Tis I am the champion worth a hundred  
 from a vast valorous host ;  
 I am the dragon of numerous clans ; 35  
 in sooth 'tis my birthright.

I have fought good share of battles ;  
 giants shall not prevail against me ;  
 by me has your father fallen ;  
 his son shall fall, alas ! 40

LcS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub> ; gu B.36. *dam*] dum LL.38. *gebat*] gebuid LL.39. *torchair*] dorochair BLcYS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V.40. *monuar*] monuair fcs. of LL wrongly.

## ATH FADAT I.

Líath Lurgan lúam gaiscid géir  
ro-búi sund ó shléib do shléib  
trén-fher d' uib Falgi na fied  
no-s-feimded cach dechenbar.

Tri ingena in láech nad lac,  
Dóe Caichni ocus Fadat,  
fúaratar dígu n-delba,  
dáig ro-s-tréic a tigerna.

Doluidset co Lind na Tarb  
a triur ingen, ba scél n-garb,  
co facadar ferdacht fer  
fothu féin fota in t-ainmed.

Imsói Fadat, fota in col,  
co Ath Fadat dia bádud ;  
luidis Dóe, truag in t-shét,  
co Lind Dóe dia lán-éc.

15

Caichni ro-s-íc Sinchell slán  
co h-imthend co h-enech-nár ;  
ar a h-íc ba hé in fiach  
in chluáin ba le ó Luirgniuch Líath.

20

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LL BB Lc Y S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>H<sub>2</sub>V. *aliter secundum christianos* LL. 2. ro] do Lc Y (?). 4. -s-] LL S<sub>1</sub>; *om. cæt.* 5. tri] mac H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. 6. Dóe Caichni] LL.Y: in reverse order, *cæt.* 8. dáig] LL; doig *cæt.* 9. dolluidset] LL; mus [mos] luidset *cæt.* 10. a triur] an dias S<sub>3</sub>; in diess H<sub>1</sub>. 11. facadar] fuaratar LL. *ferdacht*] LcYS<sub>1</sub> ferdu LL BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 12. fota in t-ainmed] *ed.* fotainthimned LL; fota dimneadh S<sub>3</sub>; fata aimnead Lc; fato animnedh

## ATH FADAT II.

Liath Lurgan, pilot of the sharp weapon,  
 he was [known] here from hill to hill  
 [as a] mighty man from Offaly of the feasts ;  
 no ten men were a match for him.

There were three daughters of the hero (no weakling he !)— 5  
 Doe, Caichni, and Fadat ;  
 they met with disgrace to their forms  
 because their Lord left them.

They came to Lind na Tarb  
 these three damsels (harsh is the tale) 10  
 and they saw a man's male features  
 [reflected] beneath them—a lasting blemish !

Fadat turned her about (lasting the crime !)  
 [and went] to Ath Fadat to drown herself ;  
 Doe went (sad the faring !) 15  
 to Lind Doe to her final death.

Caichni, Sinchell cured her whole  
 right soundly, with modest seeming ;  
 for her healing this was the payment,  
 the meadow-land she had from Liath of Lurgan. 20

---

H<sub>1</sub> ; foda aimneadh B ; fada áimned S<sub>1</sub> ; fada aimneadh Y. Perhaps *fota a n-imned*.  
 13. *in*] LL Lc ; a *cæt*. 15. *luidis*] is *luidis* S<sub>2</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *truag in t-shét*] LL cen  
 dalmud, &c., *cæt*. 16. *lán-éc*] LL ; dian-bádud, &c., *cæt*. 17. *rosíc*] *rusbicc* B.  
 18. *imthend*] *imchend* Lc. 19. *h-íc*] B ; *íc cæt*. *ba hé in*] *dó ro be a LeYS<sub>1</sub>*.  
 20.] *sic* LL ; Cluain Caichne [Caich is H, om. S<sub>1</sub>] cluain Lurgan Liath *cæt*.

## ARD LEMNACHT.

Senchas Arda Lemnacht lán  
 fuil lim fri ferdacht find-cháid,  
 adbar dia fríth túachle tra  
 do marbad túathi Fidga.

Crimthand Sciath-bél, ro scáil scíam, 5  
 ba rí ós gasraid Galían ;  
 is dó ropdar birda baill  
 túatha Fidga ocus Fochmaind.

Ní-s-láimed turbaid ar bith,  
 ní-s-gaibed aurgail arm-grith ; 10  
 cacha n-gontais, cían in dail,  
 ní blaissed bíad nó bethaid.

Comlund cét cách óen-fher díb ;  
 forlund a mét ria mór-rím ;  
 gabsat 'n-a fíchaib tall tair 15  
 co-ro-s-díthaig cland Chruthnig.

Solen, Ulfa, Nechtain Nár,  
 Oengus, Lethend, is Drostán,  
 sé meic Geloin cen gním n-gand,  
 fríth a n-deg-fhóir do Crimthand. 20

Iarum asbert Drostan drúi  
 fri muintir Crimthaind cleth-núi ;  
 “ mad ail a marbad co mer,  
 is é a n-damnad a n-díchned.

---

LL B Lc S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 1. *lain*] LL ; lóir *cet*. 2. *find-cháid*] LL ;  
 fir-chóir *cet*. 6. *ba rí ós gasraid*] LL ; ós gasraid gasta BLc S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ; for  
 g. g. H<sub>1</sub>. 7. *ropdar*] badar Lc ; robot S<sub>3</sub>. *baill*] boill Lc S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub> ;  
 amboill S<sub>1</sub>. 9. *nísláimed*] nislamaid Lc ; nislamadh S<sub>3</sub> ; nislaimeth H<sub>1</sub> ;  
 nflamadh S<sub>1</sub>. 10. *nísgaibed*] niscailit Lc. 11. *in dail*] in  
 ail S<sub>1</sub> ; an ail H<sub>1</sub> ; anoil Lc S<sub>3</sub>. 12. *nó*] na BLc S<sub>1</sub>. 15. *'na*

## ARD LEMNACHT.

The story of Ard Lemnacht the bright  
I hold as equal to pure and splendid valour  
the means out of which in sooth was devised the trick  
for slaying the tribe of the Fidga.

Crimthand Sciath-bel, radiant in beauty, 5  
was king over the stock of the Galians ;  
to him were as pointed weapons  
the tribes of the Fidga and Fochmand.

No mischance dared touch them at all,  
no conflict nor clang of arms could hurt them ; 10  
whomsoever they wounded lasting was his lot,  
he tasted neither food nor life [again].

Every man of them was match for hundreds ;  
overwhelming was their stature with their great numbers ;  
they settled in their lands there eastward, 15  
till the Clann Cruthnig destroyed them.

Solen, Ulfa, Nechtain Nar,  
Oengus, Lethend, and Drostan,  
the six sons of Gelon, no niggards of deeds,  
they were found a stout support to Crimthand. 20

Then said Drostan the druid  
to the followers of Crimthand the princely :  
“ If ye desire their sudden destruction,  
herein is their damning and their beheading.

*fichaib*] nar *fichaib* B ; narb *ficĥ* S<sub>3</sub> ; nau*ficĥ* H<sub>1</sub> ; na *fidgaid* Lc. 16. *Chruthnig*  
Crimthain Lc S<sub>1</sub>. 18. *Lethend*] LL ; Lethfind H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ; Leithfind B ; Leithtend  
S<sub>1</sub> ; Leitind Lc. 19. *sé*] *secht* S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. *Geloin*] B ; Gleoin LL ; Gaileoin  
Lc S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub> ; Gealóin S<sub>1</sub>. *cen*] LL ; con BS<sub>3</sub> ; gon H<sub>1</sub> ; ní S<sub>1</sub> ; can Lc.  
20. *do*] la S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 21. *Iarum*] iarsin S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub> ; arsin Lc. 22. *clethnui*]  
*clethnáí* S<sub>1</sub> ; *clethnáoi* S<sub>3</sub>. 24. *is é*] om. B. *dicĥned*] ditĥnead Lc ; dítean S<sub>1</sub>.

Anan-gonfat Fídgai fir mescthar i lind lemnacht gil dáig na n-arm n-dremun n-drechtach, atré slemun slán-chrechtach."	25
Tuetha cóica ar cét bó m-boc co h-óen-magin co h-óen-chnoc ; ro tomlacht cen lúag a lucht i cnuc úar Arda Lemnacht.	30
Fríth in cách deg-amm don druing ferand Fídga ocus Fochmaind ; ar clód na fer máerda mass dianid sód sáerda senchas.	35

- 
25. *Anan*] inan S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *gonfat*] gonsat H<sub>1</sub> S<sub>1</sub> ; consad Lc.  
 27. *dáig*] LL; dágh S<sub>3</sub>; dag (?) H<sub>1</sub>; oag B; óagh S<sub>1</sub>; oca Lc. *na n-arm*  
 LL; an arm S<sub>3</sub>; arm BLe S<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 28. *atré*] at ráe S<sub>3</sub>; adroei H<sub>1</sub>;  
 adrai Lc; adraidh S<sub>1</sub>. 29. *tuetha*] LL; tuethar Lc; tucadh S<sub>1</sub>; tugad B;  
 tugath H<sub>1</sub>; tuḡ S<sub>3</sub>. 30. *chnoc*] BH<sub>1</sub>; phort LL Lc S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. 31. *luag*] luad

ARD LEMNACHT. 33

Whomsoever the Fidge men shall hit 25  
 let him be plunged in a bath of white milk,  
 on account of their dreadful countless weapons ;  
 he shall arise smooth and sound of wounds."

There were brought a hundred and fifty tender kine  
 to one field and to one hill ; 30  
 their milk was drawn without price paid  
 on the cold hill of Ard Lemnacht.

There fell to the lot of every brave company of the host  
 the land of the Fidge and the Fochmaind,  
 after the rout of the lordly goodly men, 35  
 from whom the tale is a lofty delight [to hear] .

Lc H<sub>1</sub>.    32. *úar*] uag B.    33. *deg-amm*] degam H<sub>1</sub> ; degham S<sub>3</sub> ; dagammum  
 LL ; deg-ainm B Lc S<sub>1</sub>.    33. *druing*] S<sub>3</sub> (?) ; draimm LL ; dreim B ; drem Lc S<sub>1</sub> ;  
 d̄m̄ H<sub>1</sub>.    35. *maerda*] mairda LL.    36. *dianad*] LL ; dianad BLc ;  
 dianadh S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ; dianut H<sub>1</sub>.    *senchas*] in senchas, &c., BLc S<sub>3</sub>.

## AILECH I.

Decid Ailech n-Imchill n-úuib  
 sosad slúraig sir-thenn síl Néil  
 fert fodaénai Banbai m-báin  
 Aida áin meic Dagda déin.

Dagda daith, ba deog de neim, 5  
 flaith for fleid Fodla co fuin  
 maraid as-síd . . . céin mair  
 is fair ro-gníd issin Bruig.

Ba' rí h-Erend ilair-gíall, 10  
 ba flaith fial forsheing, ba fáel ;  
 deg-meicc h-it oebnius ria thoéb  
 Cermait cáem, Oengus, iss Áed.

Áed ro-bíth i m-Bend Báin Báith  
 tre neim ind laich col-láim luaith  
 no-d-forglem fo indnu áith ; 15  
 ba bidba cáich Corrgend crúaich.

Corrgend fo chairib don chin  
 i fid na maigib na muir  
 con nach fúair port fo gréin gil  
 cen chorp ind fhir for a muin. 20

Mathi h-Erend imma ríg  
 as each thír tren-sheing co tráig ;  
 niptar tlaithenaid a thúir  
 ó dún meic Fathemain fáil.

Fríth Corrgend co cridi-crao ; 25  
 ba bráu borb-leing inna bíu ;  
 dobert ainech ris tre thnú  
 dú ita Ailech indiu.



## AILECH I.

- Behold Ailech of Imchell before you,  
 the home of the enduring host of Niall's race ;  
 the grave . . . bright Banba  
 of Aed, the noble son of the keen Dagda.
- The active Dagda, he was a draught of poison ;                    5  
 the prince at the feast of Fodla till sunset ;  
 his mound remains from of old,  
 it is for him it was made on the Brugh.
- He was king of Erin with hosts of hostages ;  
 he was a prince noble, slender ; kind he was.                    10  
 good sons are an ornament at his side,  
 Cermait the comely, Oengus, and Aed.
- Aed was slain on Benn Ban Bath,  
 by the violence of the hero swift of hand  
 (we testify to it) under a sharp weapon ;                    15  
 the cruel Corrgend was every man's foe.
- Corrgend lay under blame for the crime :  
 in wood nor fields nor sea  
 found he never refuge under the white sun,  
 nor riddance from the man's body on his back.                    20
- The chiefs of Erin around their king  
 from every land strong and narrow to the shore  
 his princes were not mild of mood  
 from the fort of the son of Fathemain the noble
- Corrgend was found with heart's blood [on him] ;                    25  
 he was a wild-whirling mill-stone in his lifetime :  
 he brought with him honour on account of his jealousy  
 to the spot that is Ailech to-day.

- Dia do glan-fhert glan ro-gníth  
fich inid faderc do chach 80  
don Dagdo díl fo luig hach  
in iath bil Banba co bráth.
- Ni-n-bóí síd na slán ind uile  
cen chrad a chuirp co níth-nert  
on Dagdea do díth a meic 85  
cen marb-lia mairt forsin fert.
- Fuair lia linne os loch  
fo thinniu throch *trait* atbath;  
ro-briss a blaid iss a bruth :  
assbert guth ba "h-ail" co n-"ach." 40
- Ailech cen Chorrcead fo chlói  
ni toirm thend in *grai*gech glé;  
bóí fer tuachill for a thí  
ropo rí do thuathaib Dé. D.
- Ailech n-Imchill os cech áit 45  
dia do báire bir-chinn fri ét  
la tuatha De dremuin dúaire  
cuaird i m-bái Nemain is Nét.
- Imchéll casleóir Dagdai dúir  
in múir mas-móir magdai muaid; 50  
Coblan *ua* Gairb gaela *gráid*  
ro-d-fáig in fhert Aeda úaig.
- Atbath Corrcend co crúais chuirp  
húais n-uile nad órnnenn a shercc  
ro dechraig fón ail co h-aircé 55  
ind ailt ro dechlaid in fert.
- Cia no-s-fallsige cech súi  
teora amsera mollé  
o na treaib diantreb thói  
cen góí co n-genair mac Dé? D. 60

- When for the pure grave was built  
 the town wherein is visible to everyone, 30  
 from the kindly Dagda's time under sad . . . ,  
 the good meadow land of Banba for ever.
- There was no peace for him nor healing of the ill deed,  
 without torture of his body with mortal force,  
 to be had from the Dagda for the loss of his son 35  
 without a grave-stone of death [laid] on the tomb.
- He found a stone of the sea above the lough ;  
 for exhaustion, alas ! he died straightway ;  
 his force was broken and his rage ;  
 he uttered a cry, it was 'ail' with an 'ach' ! 40
- [Ailech without Corrgend under . . .  
 [would] not [be] a sound of might, the bright  
 [home] of horses.
- There was a subtle man on his track  
 who was king over the Tuatha de Danann.
- Ailech Imchell [was] above every place 45  
 when from the sharp-beaked ship [it was regarded]  
 with envy  
 by the Tuatha de Danann wild and grim,  
 the precinct in which were Nemain and Neit.
- Imchell was the castle-builder of the stern Dagda,  
 of the fair great vast and noble wall ; 50  
 Gablan, grandson of Garb, kinship of rank,  
 reared it round the tomb of young Aed.]
- Corrcend died of the burden of the body  
 (height of evil [is his] whom his love degrades ;)  
 bearing the stone he marked out with toil 55  
 the abode where the grave was dug.
- [Wherefore does every poet proclaim  
 three periods in all  
 from the feast . . . ,  
 without falsehood, to the birth of the Son of God ?] 60

Ailech Frigrend eíd dia m-bói ?  
 dia n-innlend ái, úais a lí,  
 Frigriu cerd Cruthmaige Cé  
 i ré Fhubthaire ó h-Í.

Ubthaire din d'Albain óig 65  
 tue toir Truchmaige o thír,  
 co fúair flaith glacc-neme geir  
 Fhiachraig réil Roptene in ríg.

Ro-gnúth tech 'mo nging n-áin 70  
 la Frigrind, fáil ferr *cech* dín ;  
 sneid ro-samig dar da sál  
 leir for lar Ailig na ríg.

Ro-s-fhuc Eochu Domlén dían 75  
 gorm-nél na n-gál, n-gel a gruad ;  
 ní saiched siblig dar sál  
 aithed n-án d'a ingin úad.

h-Elech der Fhubthaire fhind 80  
 dar lind Luchraide cen luing,  
 mathair moingda mó *cech* mainn  
 na trí Conla do chlaind Chuind.

Cíd airdaire in tairbirt trén,  
 tre garg-nert n-ger glethe slúraig  
 ind ríg ro-thrén ocon rám,  
 arsain oc snam, aichde n-úar.

Is é-sin senchas *cech* shin 85  
 in gais gil ní grenchas n-gair,  
 in grin-gen graigeach co n-gail  
 dia fail Ailech Frigrend fair.

In fáth fácbait fri *cech* rím, 90  
 Patric dia tír tic iar céin,  
 co toracht cen altu áig  
 i n-a n-dáil co maccu Neil.

- Ailech Frigrend, whence is it [called] ?  
 Since art adorns it, noble its splendour.  
 Frigriu [was] a wright of Cruthmaige Ce  
 in the time of Fubthaire from Iona.
- Fubthaire then from inviolate Scotland 65  
 led the pursuit from the land of Cruthmaige,  
 till he met a prince venom-handed, keen,  
 Fiachu Reil Sroptine the king.
- A house was built round the bright maiden  
 by Frigriu the noble, better than any guard, 70  
 he planted it upright, [seen] across two seas,  
 clear on the site of Ailech of the kings.
- Eochu Domlen the swift carried off  
 a pale cloud of the hostages (white their cheek);  
 [Fubthaire] did not pursue the fugitive across the sea 75  
 a fair flight his daughter had from him.
- Ailech, daughter of fair-haired Fubthaire,  
 crossed the water of Luchraide without a ship ;  
 the long-haired mother, greater than any treasure,  
 of the three Collas from the race of Conn. 80
- Though famous the strong invading force  
 thro' keen fierce strength were decided the hosts  
 of the mighty king [to go] a-rowing  
 [and] thereafter a-swimming—cold employment !
- That is the tale of every bard 85  
 of the fair scion (it is not a short . . .);  
 the comely youth known for horses and for valour,  
 from whom Ailech Frigrend gets its name.
- [The prophet [whose blessing] men leave with every  
 company,  
 Patrick, came long after from his home, 90  
 and came without wounds of strife  
 to the sons of Niall to their meeting.

Eogan dia n-amraib ro-necht  
 etir anmain *ocus* chorp ;  
 fuair ellach ar nóebe nirt 95  
 in Britt ro-bennach in port.

Patric, ni triamain a tli,  
 dia m-bat riarraig i cech ré,  
 tellach n-Eogain os cech clói  
 ro-s-bennach a deonaib Dé. D. 100

Fuil buaid clérig co ù-grád glán  
 for gruaid Ailig, án a mod,  
 flaith co fáthaib fogaib mid  
 mo brathair cen chin cen chol.

Colum Cille do chlaind Néill, 105  
 glan-oll gleir glinne co n-áib,  
 sech is áire do Albain óig,  
 mind n-óir Daire Chalgaig cáim.

Colum co seolaib in súi  
 Conaill is Eogain mollé, 110  
 óa ríg Conail congaib h-Í,  
 tí dom chobair, attaig De. D.

AILECH I.

41

- Eogan of their famous men very pure  
 both in soul and body,  
 gained union by holiness of strength ; 95  
 the Briton blessed the abode.
- Patrick (not weary his delight),  
 to whom men were obedient at every season,  
 the family of Eogan above every praise,  
 he blessed it by the will of God. 100
- He is the chief of clerics with pure orders,  
 on the brow of Ailech—high his honour !  
 a prince with poesy gets estimation  
 my brother without sin without stain.
- Colum Cille of the race of Niall, 105  
 exceeding pure bright strong with beauty,  
 even he is a prince for all Scotland,  
 golden diadem of fair Daire Calgach.
- Colum of the sails the poet  
 of Conall and Eogan together, 110  
 grandson of king Conall who keeps Iona,  
 may he come to my help I pray God.]

## AILECH II.

Cia triallaid aisneis senchais Ailig eltaig  
d'éis Ehdach áin, is gait claidib al-láim Ercail.

Ermor neich ro-iarfaig uli úa Maelcholuim ;  
Eochaid iar cund ro-sluind iar sund do druing Dobuill.

Derb mar ro-iarfaig cia soér doróne Ailech, 5  
ní cheil Eochaid arm-shlán airech : Garban graigech.

Cia ro-búi aice 'e a dénam Imchell find-pher,  
is Garban sóer úa Gairb ó gael fael no-fhiged.

Fég cia lasa n-dernad iarum in gním glanda ?  
in fer las' tucad a domna indel Dagda. 10

Dia fiarfaigther cia fochond ar a n-dernad ?  
a mac im lecht cundail ro fecht in fert feb-glan.

Fégthar cid dia n-apar Ailech airdaire etir ?  
dond ail túargaib Corrcend cicuil torged gletin.

Geguin Corrcend mac Fathemain ó Chruach Cluníd 15  
Áed ard amra ropo mac don Dagda dulig.

Dia n-dechaid Áed co mnái Corrcind i n-a lepaid,  
ba h-ole opair úair nách fer cotaig ro-chetaig.

Cechaing Corrcend iar n-a chrád for lár a thige ;  
co ro-marb Áed iar n-óeth aile ; ba bóeth bine. 20

---

LL BLe S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 1. After *triallaid* all mss. but LL insert *nech*. 2. *is gait*] is gait a LL; tuc a Le. *al-láim*] alaind B. *Ercail*] Hectoir LL.  
3. *Ermor*] ce mor S<sub>1</sub>. *ó*] .h. S<sub>1</sub>. 4. *iar sund*] ria sund LL Le S<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.  
*dobuill*] LL; dabuill, *cæt*. 5. *mar ro*] mar o LL; mado S<sub>3</sub>; mar Le S<sub>1</sub>.  
*cia*] LL; ciaso, &c. BLe S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>; cuich e an S<sub>3</sub>. 6. *shlán*] lán S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *Garban*] Gablan BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 7. *aice*] LL; aco Le S<sub>1</sub>; ar caí H<sub>1</sub>; ar caí B; ar caí S<sub>3</sub>.  
'e a] coa B; ica S<sub>1</sub>; goa S<sub>3</sub>; co a H<sub>1</sub>. *findpher*] B; fhiner LL; finner S<sub>3</sub>;  
infhir S<sub>1</sub>; innfhear Le. 8. *Garban*] Gablan BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *ó a*] o BS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; on ? Le.  
*fael*] soer, &c. BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *no*] ro Le S<sub>1</sub>. 9. *Fég*] LL; om. BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.



## AILECH II.

Whoever attempts the telling of the story of Ailech of the herds after the noble Eochu, it is [like] robbing the sword from the hand of Hercules ;

O'Maelcoluim asked great part of the whole matter ;  
Eochu thereafter expounded [the matter] intelligibly to the men of the Doball.

He asserted, when [the other] asked, who was the builder that built Ailech ?  
he did not conceal it, Eochu the noble full-armed, it was Garban of the horses.

Although he had with him in the building Imchell the fair-haired man,  
it is Garban the builder, grandson of Garb, from a kindly kin, who planted it.

Look, who he was by whom was done thereafter the deed of expiation the man by whom was brought the material which the Dagda prepared.

If it be asked, what was the cause for which it was made ?  
His son—around [his] seemingly grave was raised the tomb nobly-bright.

Let it be seen wherefore Ailech the illustrious is called so at all ?  
from the stone Corrcend lifted up . . . who came to the battle.

Corrcend, son of Fatheman, from Cruach Clune, smote  
Aed, high-born famous, who was son to the sorrowful Dagda,

Because Aed came to Corrcend's wife into her bed ;  
ill was the deed when no ally allowed it.

Corrcend went on, after torturing him on the floor of his house and slew Aed after swearing otherwise ; the crime was foolish.

fegthar fos (foss) Lc S<sub>1</sub>.      iarum] om. Lc S<sub>1</sub>.      glanda] gribda  
glanda B ; glanbhdha &c. S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.      10. lastuad] lasa tudcad B.      11. dia  
[farf.] da marf. LL.      cia] LL ; ciasa cæt.      12. a] an LL.  
cundail] condailt LL ; is fair Lc S<sub>1</sub>.      ro fecht] ro theacht Lc.      feb] fa Lc ; fehb,  
feadb H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. Lc omits 10 tuc[ad to 12 im]lecht.      13. etir] aistir LL.      14. torged]  
LL ; toirted B ; torgenn Lc ; toirgend S<sub>1</sub> ; tortenn H<sub>1</sub> ; toirtteann S<sub>3</sub>.      16. ropo]  
om B ; in tres Lc S<sub>1</sub>.      19. iarn] arn BLc.      20. aile] LL ; aire BS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>H<sub>1</sub> ; aeri Lc.

Bátar óic h-Erend 'c a iarair, amra in lucht-sin,  
co ná fúaratar dond fhecht-sin isind luc-sin.

“Oirgther” or cách “nachan-angar dáig na n-derna.”  
“Ní-tha a díth,” ol in Dagda, “fo bith Temra ;

“Acht tócbaid in marb ro-mudaig for a muin-seom 25  
ferr dún tra trell dia thoil-seom andá a guin-seom.

“Co raib fo mela fon marb-sin, cennach cáemna,  
co fagba licc bas bert búada for lecht n-Áeda.”

Arigis lec ós loch Fhebhail, ba feidm féinmed,  
co túargaib súas co crúas chórad úais in trén-fher. 30

Éd asbert oc breith ind eire dar sreith slige,  
“Ach ach do ail ! is de-sin ro-maid mo chride.”

“Cóir cid *Ailech* do rád ris” ol in Dagda ;  
co-rop éd a ainm in dindgna airm i tarla.

Techt Néit mac Indui Ailech bráthair athar, 35  
ocus Nemain a ben brethach na cned cathach.

Co-rop Ailech Néit asberthar ó cech duine,  
gibis glaine ór, is leis ind inis uile.

Iarfais nech and cia díne ro-gab in inse  
tan dorigned in gním glanda ós ind lind-se ? 40

Lán-memor lim it Túatha De Danann drongaig  
co n-a n-gáib co n-a sciathaib con a congaib.

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21. 'ca] co LL. 22. isind luc] iarsin ulc Le S<sub>1</sub>. 23. nachanangar] nahanager LL; nochananger S<sub>3</sub>; is nahaincer(-ainether) Le S<sub>1</sub>. 24. ní tha] LL; nintane B; nintáine S<sub>3</sub>; ninta . . . H<sub>1</sub>; ní dénta Le S<sub>1</sub>. adith] om. BH<sub>1</sub>. ol] LL; ar cæt. 26. ferr] is ferr, &c. Le S<sub>1</sub>. tra] trá LL; tráth H<sub>1</sub>. trell] ní S<sub>1</sub>. 29. féinmed] gan teimil S<sub>1</sub>. 30. co túargaib] do farcaib Le. co crúas] ba báis S<sub>1</sub>. trénfher] temer LL S<sub>1</sub>; tremor ? H<sub>1</sub>. 31. Ed] OED B; Sead Le. oc breith] fo brit B. dar] iar BS<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. sreith] sleith Le. 32. do ail] a ail S<sub>1</sub>. de sin] do shain LL; dít-so S<sub>1</sub>. ro] do LL Le. 33. do] a B. ris] a ris S<sub>1</sub>; risin S<sub>3</sub>. ol] ar Le S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. 34. a] om. LL. 35. techt] tectad B; techtuid &c., H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; techtais S<sub>1</sub>. athar] LL; mathar

The youth of Erin were seeking him—famous that company!  
but they found him not at that time in that place.

“Let him be slain,” cried each man, “let him not find protection  
for what he has done.”

“He shall not die,” said the Dagda, “for Tara’s sake,

“But he shall lift up on his back the dead man he has destroyed; 25  
'tis better for us [to take] a spell of his service than to smite him,

“And he shall be under the shameful burden of the dead man, as  
the price of protection,

till he find a stone that shall be a trophy over Aed’s grave.”

He marked a stone above loch Foyle (it was a hero’s task),  
and raised it up with a champion’s strength; noble was the man of  
might. 30

This is what he said as he bore the burden over successive roads  
“Ach! ach! thy stone! 'tis by it my heart is broken!”

“'Tis just to call it *Ailech*,” said the Dagda;  
so that was the name of the fortress, in the spot where he was.

Neit, son of Indui, his mother’s brother possessed Ailech 35  
and Nemain, his sage wife, of the wounds of war.

So it is called by all men Ailech Neit,  
the valley brighter than gold; to him the whole island belonged.

Then some one asked, what race won the island  
what time the deed of expiation was done above that lough? 40

Well I remember, it was the Tuatha De Danann in their hosts  
with their darts, with their shields, with their engines of war.

*cæt.* 36.] 7 N. brethach cathach co fir fathach S<sub>1</sub>. *na cneid*] aicned Lc.  
37. *corop*] conid, &c. BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *asberthar*] adberar (at-) BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 38. *glaine*]  
*om.* S<sub>1</sub>. *ór is leis*] *om.* B; or is leis LL; nair is lais (leisin)H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; coroblais,  
&c. Lc S<sub>1</sub>. *uile*] indis uile S<sub>1</sub>. 39. *iarfais*] iarfaid B; fiarfaidis (-gis) Lc S<sub>1</sub>.  
*and*] dam Lc S<sub>1</sub>. *díne*] duine S<sub>1</sub>. *gab*] threb Lc S<sub>1</sub>. *inse*] idso Lc.  
40. *dorigned*] doringned LL; dorinne S<sub>3</sub>; dorined H<sub>1</sub>. *glanda*] *ed.* glandsa, &c., all  
*MSS.* *lind se*] rind se B; indsi (innsi) H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. 41. *it*] *om.* Lc S<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; i H<sub>1</sub>.  
*Danam*] dōn LL. *drongaig*] condr. Lc; conandr. S<sub>1</sub>. 42. *co n-a ngdib*  
*co n-a sciathaib*] LI.; im Néit mac Indui ind allaid *cæt.*

Cia rí búi for h-Erend uile glé-bind glaine,  
acht in Dagda druine ? ní chluine nach n-amra n-aile.

A n-am i n-dernad in dindgna ? demni dolaid, 45  
toimsech trebáid, in tres amser torsech domain.

Do-rocht mór n-díne do Ailiuch i m-bíd Imchell,  
ailig airmend co tánic in fairend Frigrend.

Frigriu mac Rudi rúaid ro-glain co n-úail ergnaid  
tuc la h-ór a h-Albain armaig óg a ernaig. 50

Ergnaid in cerdd diarbo ainder Ailech imgel,  
ciarbo do Fhubthaire fhond-gel ropo ingen.

I n-athiud ro-s-fuc dar muir mac Rudi rathaig  
iar enis clochair, rop fhocheid cen fhis dia h-athair.

Atracht Fubthaire dia h-iarair ciarbo indsa ; 55  
glice in band-sa, co-toracht conice in dind-sa.

De-shin bretha isin daingen co n-glúair graigeach ;  
úair ba debech ro-fhucad Ailech i n-Ailech.

And ba h-úamon ri Fubthaire Frigriu Fothart ;  
Fiacha Sroptine ro-dn-anacht no co toracht. 60

Tech doringned and 'm a mnái la Frigrend Foglaig.  
ro-po ergnaid os rói rebruid ar a ro-blaid.

43. *búi*] ro búi LL Le S<sub>1</sub>. *for h-E.*] a n-E. Le ; ar E. S<sub>1</sub>. *glé-bind*] gebind,  
&c. BS<sub>3</sub>. *glaine*] om. LL. 44] in cluine acht in D. dr. amra aile l.e.  
*ni*] in B. 45. *a n-am*] BH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ; in t-am S<sub>1</sub> ; in tan Le ; an amser LL.  
46. *toimsech*] torsech ? LL ; taidhbhsech S<sub>3</sub>. *trebáid*] trebaid &c. all MSS.  
*torsech*] doirsech, &c. BS<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 47. *mór*] mo S<sub>3</sub>. *imbíd*] imid B ;  
imad Le S<sub>1</sub> ; um néid (neitt) S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *Imchell*] LL ; ingell *cæt.* 48. *ailig*] LL ; alic (-g) BS<sub>3</sub> ; alic H<sub>1</sub> ; failid (-g) Le S<sub>1</sub>. 48. *airmend*] feidm  
lond, &c. Le S<sub>1</sub>. *fairend*] *ed.* fairmend LLH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ; fairirmend B ; særtier Le ;  
ferglond S<sub>1</sub>. 49. *glain*] glaig B ; glaich S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub> ; glám (?) Le. 50. *armaig*]  
ergnaid LL ; adbuil Le S<sub>1</sub>. *óg a*] an óg S<sub>3</sub> ; ba h-ogh S<sub>1</sub> ; fa h-oc Le.  
*ernaig*] ergnaid, &c. Le S<sub>1</sub>. 52. *fhond-gel*] dond mer, &c. BH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>.

Who was the king was over all Erin bright, sweet and pure?  
[who] but the strong Dagda? You hear of no other [so] famous  
man.

The time when was built the fortress? a sad certainty, 45  
a long-lasting period, the third lamentable epoch of the world.

There arrived at Ailech, where Imchell was, many races  
[at Ailech] the rocky the famous, till the following of Frigriu came.

Frigriu, son of Rudi Ruad, very pure, proud and skilful,  
brought with gold from Scotland, virgin land of weapons, his  
implements. 50

Cunning was the craftsman whose wife was Ailech the white,  
though it was Fubthaire the white-soled whose daughter she was.

In flight across the sea the son of Rudi the lucky bore her  
along the surface of a causeway: it was a sorrow to her father not  
to know of it.

Fubthaire arose to seek her, though it was difficult 55  
(cunning was that deed); and he came unto that fort;

Thereupon she was carried into the keep, clamorous stead of horses;  
when battle was [joined], Ailech was borne to Ailech.

Then Frigriu of Fothart was afraid before Fubthaire  
Fiachu Sroptine protected him till he reached [Ailech]. 60

A house was built about his wife by Frigriu the pirate;  
he was noted above the field of exercise for his great force.

53. *dosfuc*] do fue LL.      *dar muir*] om. Lc.      54. *cnis*] scis Lc.  
*rop fhocheid*] ro thochair Lc; rosfothaigh S<sub>1</sub>.      57. *bretha*] ro-bretha S<sub>1</sub>.  
*con glúair*] nglúair LL.      *graigech*] ngr. LL.      58. *ro-fhucad*] LL; rucad  
uad, &c. BLeS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>; rucad uadha S<sub>1</sub>.      *Ailech in A.*] eineach A. S<sub>1</sub>; Ailech dia  
enech Lc; A. dia oinech H<sub>1</sub>.      59. *re*] Lc S<sub>3</sub>; ri LL; ria S<sub>1</sub>; ra H<sub>1</sub>; ro B.  
*fothart*] fogart Lc; fodhart S<sub>1</sub>; fothort B.      60. *rođnanacht*] ronanacht  
BH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>? conanacht Lc S<sub>1</sub>.      61. *do ringneđ*] LL; rognid BH<sub>1</sub>; do gnidh S<sub>3</sub>; do  
ronadh S<sub>1</sub>; ro rondad Lc.      'ma] mo a B mon Lc; imon, &c. S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>; dia S<sub>1</sub>.  
*la*] sin S<sub>1</sub>.      *foglaig*] fodlaid Lc; foglaidh S<sub>3</sub>.      62. *rói*] rí S<sub>1</sub>; ro S<sub>3</sub>.

Ro-gníth do derg-ibur druimnech iarna dlugu,  
 co n-garg-brut glór de arggat de ór de umu.

Ro h-ecrad do gemmaib glaine, gním ronglenón ;                    65  
 ba samail tra adaig ocus lá 'n a medón.

Mad n-giuil di-shein Ailech Frigrend, fégaid find-chill,  
 Ailech Néit ní tréic tria tairthim Ailech Imchill.

Ní fil i crí ro-fessað each ní acht Dia  
 riaguil rea ro-fitir ó chfanaib cia. C.    70

63. *rogníth*] rogni Lc; rogníd LL.                    64. *de ór de umu*] 7 d'ór is d'uma, &c.  
 Lc S<sub>1</sub>.                    65. *glaine*] glainib LL S<sub>1</sub>.                    *ronglenón*] LL; ronglemor BH<sub>1</sub>;  
 ronglem<sup>ó</sup> S<sub>3</sub>; condeadhogh Lc; congleadhsódh S<sub>1</sub>.                    67. *mad*] nod S<sub>1</sub>.  
*ngiuil*] ail Lc.                    *di shein*] iarsin Lc.                    *fégaid find-chill*] fedaig fichill Lc.  
 68. *Ailech*] is A. S<sub>1</sub>.                    *ní tréic*] ní-s-tr. Lc; ní treith, &c. BS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>;

It was built of red yew bent after splitting,  
with pure unwrought mass of silver of gold of bronze ;

It was decked with gems of crystal, a work . . . . . ; 65  
alike were day and night in the midst of it.

Although [the name] Ailech Frigrend clave to it thenceforth :  
(behold the bright church !)  
on account of [Néit's] splendour [the name] Ailech Néit did not  
depart from Ailech Imchill.

There is none on earth that would know everything, but God only :  
He knoweth the ordering of times long before what [it shall be]. 70

n-airdire S<sub>1</sub>.            *tria*] tre LL fo Lc S<sub>1</sub>.            *tairthim*] thairm BLc S<sub>1</sub>.  
*Imchill*] LL; Inill Lc; n-I. *cæt.*    69. *i crí*] a clí S<sub>1</sub>.    *ro-fessad*] ro-fesed,  
&c. BS<sub>3</sub>; nech ro-s-fidir, &c. Lc S<sub>1</sub>.    70. *roa*] reaga Lc.    *ó*] i Lc; ac S<sub>1</sub>.  
*cia*] each eia S<sub>1</sub>.

## BEND ETAIR I.

Etar étan ri dflind,  
in clár cetach Tuath Cualand,  
ni fhail aslaig ar h-Erind  
co n-gair glas-muir ria gualaind.

A gualú dess ri Dothra, 5  
ruirthech ria chness co feochra,  
fachta tuili, tond aithbe,  
aichre ri tráchta trethna.

Drecht d' écsib ceta bátar  
cardáis tractad cen cetail; 10  
is t-shenchoss ar-do-s-peitted  
cid dia n-eper ainm Etaire. E.

Tárcaí lind . . . ind óclaich  
uas rind ind échta écbaith;  
bás Bethi dia báis betaig 15  
.Aés. meic Etaire meic Étbáith.

Mac Etbáith assa h-orba  
ro-art co h-uru Alba;  
fúair mnái cen chend cumga;  
ba sí Mairg ó Shleib Marga. 20

Dó ba mathair chóir chlainne;  
focheirded id n-óir immi;  
nád baded fairge foa,  
nach rubdais roa rindi.

De shein bóí, ni do brécaib, 25  
adfét cech súi iar setaib,  
siu is tall immon sáile  
nasc mall mná na ré Etaire. E.



## BEND ETAIR 1.

Etar, forehead to the flood,  
 the hundred-strong barrier of the Tuath Cualand,  
 there is no attempt [made] on Erin  
 with a cry of the grey sea against his shoulder.

His right shoulder fronts the Dothra : 5  
 [there is] a rushing wildly against his side,  
 onset of the flood-tide, wave of the ebb,  
 bitter onslaught with violence of the stormy sea.

A number of the poets who were the first  
 . . . . a treatise without music ; 10  
 in the story there was sung  
 the reason why the name of Etar was given.

The pool keeps [the name] of the youth  
 over the crag of the slaying of foolish death ;  
 the death of Bethi [came] by the violent folly 15  
 of Aes son of Etair son of Etbaith.

The son of Etbaith whose is the inheritance,  
 [held] a great noble as far as the shores of Alba,  
 he found a woman with a head not narrow ;  
 she was Mairg from Sliab Marga. 20

She was a fit mother of children for him ;  
 she put a golden chain about him :  
 the sea should not drown him while he wore it,  
 nor should sharp spear points pierce him.

Thence came [the name] (not in falsehood 25  
 does every poet in succession relate it)  
 on this side and that about the sea  
 the . . . chain of the wife of Etar.

Ba baith a cland ar tossuch, bítis and <i>in cend</i> essiuch ; mac lesseom nárbo lési, ingen lési narbo lessium.	30
Lotar fon fairggi fograig d' <i>immarbaig snáma</i> sedlaig ; <i>in mac</i> and fo-d-úair imned, <i>ocus inn</i> ingen ergnaid.	35
Aés ro-dm-bádi tond dilend, ro-d-mert a bæs, buan fualaing <i>i n-dáil</i> fo thuinne Telchaind <i>ingine Cremthaind</i> Cualand.	40
Dolluid <i>in</i> beist, bág dathe, cucu trésin sál sithi. Rind Chind Aíse cia 'tchethe, Aú Bethe for Lind Liphi.	
Fo-r-acsat mac slán slattra Aes is Bethe bán-bechta Donn mac Aís carad indred fer diarbu ingen Elta.	45
Elta dian-mag fo ócaib, <i>in clár glan cusna cétaib</i> fert na n-airech di Grécaib décaid ar ainech Etaire. E.	50
Dia luid Aithirni angbaid ro-muir isin sláab sadbir ; <i>secht</i> cé t m-bó oi-derg find-glan timnad dó tue o Lagnib.	55
Ba gúr dollotar Lagin do breith for cúl <i>in</i> dligid sair is-sláab Etaire oraig dia thogail forsín filid.	60

29. *baith*] should, perhaps, be read *buith*.30. *essiuch*] read *essium*.

His family were foolish at the first  
 they were there, the head was he ; 80  
 he had a son that was not hers,  
 she had a daughter that was not his.

They went over the sounding sea  
 for a swimming match . . . . .,  
 the son who brought about sorrow there 85  
 and the prudent daughter.

Aes, a mighty wave drowned him,  
 his folly led him astray,—a lasting giddiness,  
 at the meeting under the waters of Telchand  
 the daughter of Crimthand of Cualu. 40

There came the beast, an active combat,  
 against them through the level sea,  
 though [still] ye see the Rock of Aes' Head,  
 [and] Bethe's Ear by the Liffey-Pool.

They left a son sound and lusty 45  
 (did Aes and Bethe of pure haviour)  
 Dond son of Aes, hero of forays,  
 A man whose daughter was Elta.

Elta, racing plain among the young,  
 the pure level with the hundreds, 50  
 the burying place of the nobles of the Greeks  
 behold it in front of Etar !

When Aithirne the cruel came  
 he stayed on the rich hill ;  
 seven hundred kine, red-eared, pure-white, 55  
 he carried off as a gift to him from the Leinstermen.

Boldly came the Leinstermen  
 to bring back their due ;  
 eastward to Sliab Etar [came] the champions  
 to sack it over the poet. 60

37] There is a symbol in the margin which I do not understand. 44] Over  
*ai* is written the gloss .i. *cluasa*. 47. *carad*] read *curad*. 54. *muir*]  
 read *mair*.

Luid *Conchobar mac Nessa*,  
secht cét co ñ-gairgi gossa,  
do chosnam in búair buada  
for maccu Ruada Rossa.

Mag n-Elta erctais curaig 65  
im *Chonchobair* dia chobair  
i n-íng i *m-batar* Ulaid,  
gabsat Étar find foruib.

Dobert Messdia tré mac Blait  
in ñ-gell ba erchor tecmaicc, 70  
co ro-dm-bádi Fínd fili  
oc ól digi assin tiprait.

Bursit Ulaid dia m-baded  
Messdia ba duine dóit-gel ;  
róinset Ulaid, nád chlóite a, 75  
for cethra choiced Góidel.

Súigsit linn, láthair ñ-do-íng  
im-maig fhind aithle ind ro-íng ;  
cen usce sreth-glan snámach  
iar n-a barach bóí Boind. 80

Ba iar n-ár na cúan créchtach  
ruc leiss a búar ñ-bán ñ-betach  
luid Aitherne is ni rubad  
d' inchaib Ulad a Étar. E.

---

65] *vel d* is written over the last letter of *curaig*.

Conor mac Nessa came,  
 seven hundred [with him] with fierceness of might,  
 to protect the cattle [spoil] of victory  
 against the sons of Ruad Ros.

Mag Elta was filled with champions 65  
 round Conor to help [Aithirne],  
 in the straits in which the Ulstermen were ;  
 they took bright Etar against [the Leinstermen].

Messdia gave on account of the son of Blait  
 the pledge, it was a chance shot struck him, 70  
 so that the poet Find drowned him  
 as he was drinking a draught from the well.

The Ulstermen shouted when was drowned  
 Messdia who was a white-fingered man ;  
 the Ulstermen inflicted defeat (they were not subdued) 75  
 on the four provinces of the Gaels.

They drank up the pool, a spot not narrow,  
 in the fair plain after the great hardships ;  
 without water flowing in pure streams  
 was Boyne on the morrow. 80

It was after the slaughter of the ravaged harbour  
 he carried off with him his white herd, prize of deeds ;  
 Aithirne went his way and was not hurt  
 thro' the protection of the Ulstermen from Etar.

## BEND ETAIR II.

Cid dorcha dam i-m lepaid,  
 cid scél fromtha is fír-deccair,  
 imréil fri solud slimda  
 each ro-mag each ro-dindgna.

Mar no-beind fri forgla fecht 5  
 ós cech forba cen anrecht,  
 gním cech cuiri fo cuimsi  
 condat uli imshuilsí.

Atchú cóiciur n-dindgna n-docht 10  
 co h-irgna agus co h-étrocht ;  
 ní fand-éirge dar samlaib  
 barr-fhéile agus bith-adbail.

Bend Etaire étan fri tuind, 15  
 Dún m-Brea meic Senboith Særuill,  
 Óe Cualand fri foglaib frais,  
 Druim Ing meic Dogbaid Dorb-glais,

Sláib Lecga in láthair iarsain,  
 fri fáthaib is fri fodlaib,  
 in cóiced find-fhadb fromtha,  
 eid imard ní h-imdorcha. 20

Adfias dúib fria chobra céim  
 cen dogra agus cen doláid  
 a senchas cen bæth-rún m-boc  
 etir scér-dún is scér-chnoc.

LL B Y Lc S<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. 5. no] do Lc YH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub> beind] benn S<sub>1</sub>; beann Y.  
 fecht] LL; ft H<sub>1</sub>; fert, &c., cat. 6. forba] formna Lc. cen] in B.  
 anrecht] cénfhecht B; aimnert, &c. Lc YS<sub>1</sub>. 7. fo] LL; om. Lc; co cat.  
 10. irgna] idhna S<sub>1</sub>. dar] daur H<sub>1</sub>; do Y Lc; da S<sub>1</sub>. samlaib] samlaid Lc.  
 12. barr-fhéile] barreile LLH<sub>1</sub>; bairreile B. H<sub>1</sub> adds lórsin to 12. 15. foglaib]

## BEND ETAIR II.

Though it be dark to me in my bed,  
 though it be "a tale of testing" and difficult indeed,  
 [yet] clear on reward for laudation  
 is every famous plain, every famous fortress.

As I was wont to be with the most famous fights 5  
 [ranked] not unjustly above every slaughter,  
 [I will set] in harmony the prowess of every host,  
 so that all may be illuminated.

I see five men of strong fortresses  
 of renown and splendour, 10  
 no weak array against their peers,  
 first in honour and mighty for ever.

The Hill of Etaire, forehead to wave,  
 The Dun of Brea son of Senboth Særoll,  
 The Stone of Cualu with forays of attack, 15  
 The Ridge of Ing son of Dogba Dorbglas,

Mount Lecga, the next spot [celebrated]  
 in poesy and in learning  
 is the fifth bright "knot of testing,"  
 though it be very high it is not very dark. 2

Told to you with its pleasant joyousness,  
 without lamentation or sorrowful song,  
 [is] their history without secret of soft lust,  
 noble fort and noble hill alike.

---

gla LL; foghla H<sub>1</sub>; fodlaid Lc; fodlaib Y. 18. *fodlaib*] Lc;  
 fodail H<sub>1</sub>; fogail LLBYS<sub>1</sub>. 19. *fhadb*] adhb S<sub>1</sub>; fad BY; fhat  
 H<sub>1</sub>; ad Lc. 21. *fria*] tria BH<sub>1</sub>Y (a.m.s.). *céim*] cain Y. 22. *cen*]  
 om. LL. *dólaíd*] dolaid B; dolaig Y; dolaich Lc; domáin S<sub>1</sub>.  
 23. *bath-*] LL; mæth, &c., cat. 24. *is sær*] is ard LL; især BLc.

Partholon ro-therba thair, co m-beith ó selga oll-blaid Brea mac Senboith co sír-gail fri engnum fri airm-dígail.	25
Comrac óen-fhir, nách maith mod, fríth la mac sér-dil Senboth, na fian-lescaig fothuga, na iarn-lestair iar-duba.	30
Fúair Brea mac Senboith na sleg dún is inber is ard-ler ; is é sin nír théitmer tra, ba cét-flher a n-aittrebtha.	35
Andsin atbath Brea co becht, is a chland uile i n-óen-fhecht ; al-lechta fri slúag-bann slatt i crích Cúaland atcondarc.	40
Cóic mná tucsatar ille cóic meic Dela cen duibe ; ba hí in chóiced ben bladmar Etar étrocht imadbal.	
'S í co n-apaíd sund ar tús ria mnái cech ríg is rorús di chumaid Gaind gécaig glúair i m-Bend Etair fri óen-úair.	45
I n-Etar fúair duilge de cen chuibde cen chomnairte ; ruc bás in gle-mall gasta ben ríg Fremaind fhorusta.	50

25. *therba*] derba B; threbtha Lc.  
airdirghail S<sub>1</sub>; fir-digail LL.  
*superscr.*) S<sub>1</sub>.

31. *lescaig*] flescaig B; lestairs Lc.  
lescaid Lc. iar-] im LL.

34. *ard-ler*] read perhaps ard-les.

in tedmer (-mar) BLc; antétmer S<sub>1</sub>.

28. *airm-dígail*] airdigail Lc ;

29. *nach*] ba Y (*with nach*

32. *lestair*]

35. *nír*

36. *aittrebtha*] LL ;



Partholan divided [the land] in the East, 25  
 so that from the all-famous seed sprang  
 Brea son of Senboth of abiding valour,  
 with prowess, with armed vengeance.

The duel (not good the custom)  
 was instituted by the noble gracious son of Senboth ; 30  
 the roofed . . . . .  
 the iron vessels black-sided.

Brea son of Senboth of the spears invented  
*dun* and river-harbour and high castle ;  
 'tis he truly . . . . . 35  
 was the first man to inhabit them.

There died Brea, 'tis certain,  
 and his whole family along with him ;  
 their graves with deed of war and rapine,  
 in the territory of Cualu I saw them. 40

Five wives they brought thither,  
 the five sons of Dela without stain ;  
 She was the fifth famous woman  
 Etar the splendid and stately.

'Twas she died here, first of all 45  
 before the wife of any king or prince,  
 from grief for Gand the prolific and pure,  
 on Bend Etar at the same hour [as he].

In Etar she found sadness from this cause  
 without compare without equal, 50  
 she died, the softly-bright active  
 wife of the steadfast king of Fremand.

*aîtreba* &c. *cæt.* 39. *al-lechta*] *aleacht* B. *slatt*] *co slad* B ; *eo slad* Y.  
 42. *cen duibe*] *condílsi* S<sub>1</sub> ; *cen duilgi* Bd. (*see notes*). 43. *bá*] *rop* I.L.  
 45. *sund*] and &c. *LeH*<sub>1</sub>. 47. *dí*] *LL* ; *do cæt.* *gécaig*] *gregaig* B.  
 49. *fuair*] *fri Le* YS<sub>1</sub> ; *gan (cin)* BH<sub>1</sub>. 50. *chomnairte*] *conairte* LL.

De-sin atá Etar án,  
in ríg-phort cétach com-lán,  
cia ro-thecht fri selba sáith 55  
Etar ergna mac Étgáith.

Etar co n-elgnus cech áig  
robúi i clemnus Manannáin ;  
marb sund dar sáile iar saine  
do sheire Áine imglaine. 60

Crimthand Sciath-bél, scíam fri cath,  
las' torchair Cualu cétach,  
tuc a chend slúag-barr samlaid  
i n-Óe Cúaland crech-adbail.

Ind ail úag fors' ruirmed sain 65  
cend rúad ruibnech ind ríg-fhir,  
di's ainm ós cech chóe chobsaid  
ind Óe irdaire imarsaid.

'Sin chath cétna comdas cailc  
do-cer mac Dorb-glais Dorn-bailc, 70  
is ro-adnacht cen esair,  
i n-Druim Ing ind imresain.

Díb-sin gairther cen góe n-glé  
Druim Ing is Óe co n-airde ;  
dia n-díth fri slúagaib segair, 75  
dia n-úagaib dia n-aidedaib.

Dia-r-chengsat fri oll-baind n-uilc  
tri maic Conmaind ui Chonmaice,  
's tri h-ui Duind Désa dámaig,  
for bóí bésa bith-gábaid. 80

55. *cia*] co LL.      *thecht*] slecht Lc.      57. *cach áig*] congáibh S<sub>1</sub>.  
59] marb thar saile iar saine Lc ; marb sunda iarsaile saine B ; m.s.d.s. saine S<sub>1</sub>.  
60. *imglaine*] imgile Lc.      61. *sciam*] sciath LL.      *fri cath*] friscath Lc S<sub>1</sub>.  
63. *sluag*] snuad Lc.      65. *úag*] uad B ; uadha S<sub>1</sub>.      *sain*] om. S<sub>1</sub>.  
66. *ruibnech*] ruipmeach Y ; ruirmech, &c. S<sub>1</sub> Lc.      67. *di 's*]di is BYH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub>;

Hence is [named] Etar the bright  
 the royal harbour, hundred-strong, complete ;  
 though there possessed it in luckless ownership 55  
 Etar the famous, son of Etgaith.

Etar with murderous mood in every strife  
 was of the kin of Manannan ;  
 he died here after separation across the sea  
 for love of Aine the pure. 60

Crimthand Shield-mouth, goodly in battle,  
 by whom fell Cualu the hundred-strong,  
 put his head host-leading in this wise  
 on Oe Cualand of the vast plundering.

The grave-stone whereon this was set, 65  
 the red mangled head of the kingly man,  
 thence comes the name above every abiding road  
 even Oe the renowned, the ancient.

In the same battle—fitting were a shield !  
 fell the son of Dorb-glas Dorn-balc, 70  
 and was buried without feasting  
 at Druim Ing in the contention.

From them is called, without clear error,  
 Druim Ing and Oe of the height ;  
 from their destruction among the hosts is the name given ;  
 from their graves, from their deaths. 76

When there went forth for a mighty deed of evil  
 the three sons of Conmand, grandsons of Conmac,  
 and the three grandsons of Dond Desa of the retinue,  
 who followed ways ever-dangerous. 80

is di as LL Lc.

cech] om. LL Lc.

69. comdas] acomdas Lc.

70. dorb] dorn LL Lc.

71. esair] asair Lc ; fhesair Y.

72. inā] gan S<sub>1</sub>.77. chengsat] censat B ; chindsead Lc ; chinnsid S<sub>1</sub> ;

chindsed Y.

78. ui] h LL ; mc cat.

79. 's] om. Lc YS<sub>1</sub>. Duind] om.BLcYS<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>.

dāmaig] LL ; nandamaib cat.

80. for báiv] diambae Lc.

Aidchi Samna sainriud sain  
damna d' inriud is d' fhogail  
co tech n-deirg n-dorsig daire,  
diamtar comsig Conaire.

Ba hí a sligi al-luing laga, 85  
sech thuind úair-beóil imthana,  
do Glind-dá-Rúad dar Gabair,  
dar Suan is dar Sencharaid.

Do déscin radaire co réil 90  
i n-e ÓCualand fo comréir,  
do Chuiliund ciar, dar Crecca,  
dar Sruthair, dar Sláb Lecga.

Sláb Sobail meic Sengaind-sin,  
as cách deg-raind deirb-deithbir  
co h-Ingéel nóisech néime, 95  
ainm tóisech in t-shen-shléibe.

Andsin asbert Lomna drúth  
cen dogra is cen do-thnúth ;  
“ Fácбайд sund fri báire m-bil  
liac láime cecha léch-fhir. 100

“ Cech óen in t-shlúraig-se báig bil  
bas túairse áir is airlig  
tecat sund fri toiche tig  
ar cend cloiche cech óen-fhir.

82. *inriud*] oll-bladh S<sub>1</sub>. *fhogail*] irgail BH<sub>1</sub>; arcain, &c. Lc YS<sub>1</sub>.  
83. *dorsig*] doimsich Lc. 84. *diamtar*] diabad, &c. BYH<sub>1</sub>; diarbo Lc. S<sub>1</sub>.  
85. *hí*] sí Lc YH<sub>1</sub>. *al-luing*] luing Lc Y. 86. *sech*] LL; do *cæt*.  
*úair-beóil*] an faigh S<sub>1</sub>. *imthana*] imгона Lc. 87. *Ruad*] grund LL.  
88. *Sencharaid*] senchoraid Lc Y; coraid B. 89. *réil*] léir B. 90. *fó*] dia LL.  
91. *crecca*] certa, &c. Lc YS<sub>1</sub>. 92. (1) *dar*] co Y; do S<sub>1</sub>. (2) *dar*] i B; om.  
Lc YH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub>. *Lecga*] Senlecca Lc YH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub>. 93. *Sobail*] LL; Somail *cæt*.

It was the very night of Samain,  
the occasion for attacking and pillaging,  
[when they came] to the red house with doors of oak  
where were the captains of Conaire.

This was their road from their hollow ship, 85  
along the cold-lipped far-stretching tide.  
To Glen da Ruad across Gabar  
across Suan and across Sencharaid.

To the point of outlook clear  
over Oe Cualand under like rule, 90  
to dark Cuilend, over Crecca,  
over the river, over Sliab Lecga.

Sliab Sobail meic Sengaind it is,  
[we learn] from every good stave of fixed certainty,  
till the time of Ingcel noble as precious stones 95  
is the original name of the ancient mountain.

Then said Lomna the buffoon,  
without sorrow without malicious envy,  
"Leave ye here for a sure starting point  
a hand-stone for every hero of you. 100

"Everyone of this host of stout combat  
that is left after the fight and the fray  
let them come hither in possession of the palace  
to fetch the stone of each single man.

*sin*] *om.* LL. 94. *as*] LL; in *cæt.* 95. *noisech*] *noisig* Y; *nosi* Lc;  
*nóissi* S<sub>1</sub>. 96. *tshen*] *trén*, &c. B Lc YS<sub>1</sub>. 99. *fácbaid*] LL;  
*fuirmid* *cæt.* *bdire*] *baile* B. 100. *liac*] *a lig*, &c. Lc YS<sub>1</sub>. *cech*]  
*cecha* H<sub>1</sub>. 101. *in*] *don* Lc YS<sub>1</sub>. *-se*] *sin* Lc YS<sub>1</sub>;  
*siu* B (?). *bdig*] *baid* B Lc Y. 102. *tuairse*] LL; *tuairsiu* B Lc Y;  
*tuairsin* S<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>. *dir is airlig*] *aid is irgail* Lc Y; *áir áneicin* S<sub>1</sub>. 103. *tecat*]  
LL; *ticedh* S<sub>1</sub>; *tiefaid*, &c. *cæt.* *toiche*] *teiche* LL. 104. *oen*] *læch* LL.

- “ De-sin fesbaide uile . . . . . 105  
 tesbaide for trén-chuire ;  
 ní bia sund fri gairm n-gairthi  
 acht cloch cech mairb mudaigthi.”
- Ó na lecaib-sin ille  
 réil ós tecmaisín tíre . . . . . 110  
 Slíab Lecga i-m radarc fhromtha  
 cen amarc ní h-imdorcha.

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105. *fesbaide*] fefede B; easbaidi Lc; mesfaidhther S<sub>1</sub>. 110. *reil*] is  
 rel Lc; leir S<sub>1</sub>. *tecmaisin*] tigmaisin Lc.; tecaimsin H<sub>1</sub>; tecandsin B; tig  
 maisi (*with* † tecaib sa *superscr.*) Y. *os*] om. Lc. 111. *Slíab Lecga*

“ Hence will be known all 105  
 the loss of your brave band ;  
 there will not be at the roll-call  
 aught but a stone for every dead man slain.”

From those stones in that spot  
 is clear above the occurrences of the land 110  
 Sliab Leega in my “ sight of testing ” ;  
 without eyesight it is [yet] not wholly dark

*imradare*] LL; In sliab fri r. &c. *cæt.*  
*cæn*]  $\bar{c}e$  H<sub>1</sub>; each, &c., Lc S<sub>1</sub>.

*fhomtha*] fromtha Y; romtha *cæt.*

## ABBREVIATIONS EMPLOYED.

- Abh. Gr. = Hyde's *Abhrdín Grádh Chúige Connacht*.  
 ACL = Archiv für Celtische Lexicographie, Band i.,  
 Heft 1-3 (Meyer's 'Contributions.')
- AMC = *Aislinge Meic Conglinne*, ed. Meyer.
- BB = The Book of Ballymote.  
 Bezz. Beitr. = Beiträge zu Bezzenger's Zeitschrift.  
 Bor. = Index to the *Boroma*, ed. Stokes, *Rev. Celt.*  
 xiii., 118 *seq.*
- CGG = War of the Gaedhil with the Gaill, ed. Todd.  
 CF = *Cath Finntrága*, ed. Meyer.  
 CMT = Index to *Cath Muige Turedh*, ed. Stokes,  
*Rev. Celt.* xii., 112 *seq.*
- Coneys = Coneys' Irish Dictionary.  
 Corm. = Cormac's Glossary, ed. O'Donovan and Stokes,  
 1868.
- Ds = *Dindshenchas*.  
 Ed. Ds. = The Edinburgh *Dindshenchas*, ed. Stokes (Folk  
 Lore, vol. iv.)
- Fél. = The Calendar of Oengus, ed. Stokes, Trans.  
 Royal Irish Academy, 1880.
- FB = *Fled Bricrend*, ed. Windisch in *Irische Texte* i.;  
 or, *Bricriu's Feast*, ed. Henderson (Irish  
 Texts Society).
- FCCn = *Fotha Catha Cnucha* in Windisch's *Kurzgefasste*  
*Irische Grammatik*: or, ed. Hennessy,  
*Rev. Celt.* ii., 86 *seq.*
- FM = The Annals of the Four Masters, ed.  
 O'Donovan.



- Ir. Nenn. = The Irish Version of Nennius, ed. Todd, Irish Archæological Society.
- I.T., Ir. T. = Irische Texte, ed. Windisch and others.
- IT iii 2 = Index to Irische Texte, Band iii. Heft 2, s. 565 *seq.*
- Joyce = Joyce's Irish Names of Places.
- K = Vocabulary to Keating's Three Shafts of Death, ed. Atkinson.
- KS, Kelt. St. = Zimmer's Keltische Studien.
- KZ = Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Sprachforschung, ed. Kuhn.
- Lc, Lec. = The Book of Lecan, in the Royal Irish Academy.
- L.Hy., Lib. Hymn. = The Irish Liber Hymnorum, ed. Atkinson and Bernard (Henry Bradshaw Society).
- LL = The Book of Leinster.
- LU = Leabhar na h-Uidhri.
- Macgn. F. = *Macgnimártha Find*, ed. O'Donovan, Transactions of the Ossianic Society, iv. 288 *seq.*; or, ed. Meyer, *Rev. Celt.* v. 195 *seq.*
- Metr. = The Irish Metrical Glossaries, ed. Stokes, *Bezz. Beitr.* xix.
- MC = O'Curry's Manners and Customs of the Ancient Irish.
- MI. = The Milan Glosses, ed. Ascoli.
- MR = The Battle of Magh Rath, ed. O'Donovan (Irish Archæological Society).
- O'Br., O'Brien = O'Brien's Irish Dictionary.
- O'Cl. = O'Clery's Glossary, ed. Miller, *Rev. Celt.* iv. 349 *seq.*
- O'C. Lect. = O'Curry's Lectures on the MS. Materials of Irish History.
- O'Dav. = O'Davoren's Glossary, in Stokes' Three Irish Glossaries.
- O'D. Suppl. = O'Donovan's Supplement to O'Reilly's Dictionary.

- O'R = O'Reilly's Irish Dictionary.  
 Oss. = Transactions of the Ossianic Society.
- PH = The Glossary to Homilies and Passions from  
 the *Leabhar Breac*, ed. Atkinson.
- RC, Rev. C = *Revue Celtique*.  
 RC, Ds. = Stokes' Index Verborum to his edition of the  
 prose *Dindshenchas*, Rev. C. xvi. 304.
- SG, Sil. Gad. = Silva Gadelica, ed. O'Grady.  
 3 Sh., = Keating's Three Shafts of Death, ed. Atkinson.  
 SM = *Senchus Mór*, ed. O'Donovan.  
 SnR = *Saltair na Rann*, ed. Stokes (Anecdota Ox-  
 oniensia).
- Tog. Tr., T.T. = *Togail Trói*, ed. Stokes (Index).  
 Tor. Dh. = *Toruirgeacht Dhiarmuda agus Ghráinne*, ed.  
 O'Grady (*Transactions* of the Ossianic  
 Society, iii.).
- Top. P. = Irish Topographical Poems, ed. O'Donovan,  
 Irish Archæological Society.
- VB = The Voyage of Bran, ed. Meyer and Nutt.
- W., Wd. = Irische Texte, Bd. i., Wörterbuch (Windisch).  
 Wb. = The Würzburg Glosses, in Stokes' Old Irish  
 Glosses (Philological Society).
- YBL = The Yellow Book of Lecan.
- Z = Zeuss' Grammatica Celtica, ed. Ebel.

## NOTES.

### RATH ESA.

ETAİN (or Etaine) was a beautiful princess of the *és síde*, among whom she lived a thousand years as the wife of Midir, till, through the jealousy of his other wife Fuamnach, she was carried off by magic arts, and was incarnate as the daughter of a mortal, the wife of Etar of the Ulstermen. She afterwards became the wife of Eochu Airem, King of Ireland; but Midir won her back from him at chess, and carried her off, along with her daughter Esa, to his fairy palace of Bri Leith. This poem tells how Eochu won back his wife and daughter.

The story is a 'foretale' to the *Bruighen Da Derga*, for the fate of Conaire was the consequence of the feud between his great grandfather Eochu and the family of Midir.

The principal sources for the fortunes of Etain, Midir, and Eochu are:—LU 129–132 (fcs.); YBL 91–104; BM Egerton, 1782, p. 205 a. From LU and Egerton, Windisch has edited the *Tochmarc Etaine* in Ir. T. i. 113: the account in YBL is summarised by O'Curry, MC ii. 190–194 (see also iii. 190–192).

Zimmer also has summarized and discussed the legend, KZ xxviii. 585.

The *Dindshenchas* of Rath Cruachan refers to Midir's abduction of Etain.

5. Esa is also called Etain: see Ir. T. i. 130, 15.

7. The prose *Ds.* says that 'a hundred of every kind of cattle were brought [by Esa] to Midir after Etain had been carried off from Eochaid.'

8. *búaid m-bésa* is clearly the true reading: cf. *búaid clerig*, *Ailech* i. 101, and see *Wd.* s. v. *búaid*.

12. *nena*. *Corm.* has *nen.i.tonn*: cf. his article on *Ninus*. An adjective *ena* occurs in *SnR*, *immon eclais n-ena n-aird*; but I do not know its meaning.

13. For *tar cend*, 'in spite of,' cf. *Tor. Dh.* 172, 27, '*tar cheann Aonghusa*.' *LL's do chind* = 'from': cf. *di a chind*, *PH* 577<sup>b</sup>.

14. *slraig*. It was at a banquet that Midir appeared and carried off Etain: cf. his promise to her, *LU* 131 β 35, '*Cíd mesc lib coirm Inse Fáil, is mescu coirm tíre midir*.'

15. *airerglan* I refer to *airer*, 'territory' (SnR, Tog. Tr., Ir. T. iii. 2); but it may rather be compounded from *airer*, 'pleasure,' 'delight' (Wd.). The word recurs in lines 23, 89. In each case the MSS. vary.

27. *dloamad*, 'refusing terms,' or 'repulsing attacks.'

30. Who are these fifty men? I suppose them to be the same persons who appear to Eochu (line 36) in the likeness of his wife, though the numbers do not tally, and I therefore translate *deibda*, 'transshaped': though it may mean simply 'shapely,' or *détla*, 'bold,' may be the true reading.

57. The fragmentary tale in LU 131 gives an account of the making of the *sochur*. Eochu learnt from the *Síde*, on this occasion, the art of making oxen work in the yoke; hence his cognomen *Airem*, 'Ploughman.'

*Iarsin doberar uir ocus grian ocus clocha forsin monai. For etnu dam dano bitár fedmand la ffru h-Erend cosin aidchi-sin, con aicees la lucht in t-shide for a formnaib. Do gníth samlaid la Eochaid, conid de atá do-som Echu Airem, ar is aice toisech tuacad euing for muinélaib dam do feraib h-Erend.*

67, 68 seem to mean that Rath Esa would afford refuge in case of need to Esa's people, and would be in communication with the other three fortresses named in the next stanza.

69. These same three fortresses are named together in LL 164, top margin (quoted SG II. 520). *belgaig* seems to be an adjective formed from *belach*.

70. *tress-dindgna*, more probably compounded from *tress*, 'war' (Wd.), than from *tress*, 'third,' since it is the first of the three mentioned.

82. *bile*, like *erand*, is used metaphorically of persons: cf. Top. P. 32, 7.

83 *seq.* Sigmall avenged his grandfather Midir by destroying Eochu Airem at Fremand: see LL 23 a 37, 131 b 40; FM anno 5084: his own fate is recorded LL 11 b 20 (cf. LU 129 b 18). It appears from our poem that he was grandson of Midir: so he is called, in LL 11 a 48, *úa sóer Midir* (where Zimmer, KZ xxviii. 689, translates *uasóer* 'Schwager?'). He was lord of the fairy palace Sid Nenta, which is identified by O'Donovan (on FM anno 5084) with Mullaghshee, in Roscommon; but is probably rather an imaginary place 'beyond the water': cf. Nutt, *Voyage of Bran*, i. 229: so it is called *Sid Nento fo huisee* in the *Cophur in da Muccida*, Ir. T. iii. 1. 238 (line 90), 240 (line 280). Finally, in LL 121 b 52, occur the lines

*Atá cend Ehdach indiu  
is-Sid Nenta iar n-uscú.*

Compare line 92 of our poem.

## FAFFAND.

Of the personages mentioned in this poem, Meilge is the only one of whom anything seems to be known from other sources. He expelled his cousin Labraid Loingsech from the overkingship of Ireland: see Four Masters, *anno mundi* 4658-4694. Meilge is called "King of Beirri" (35), and "Meilge of Imlech" (24) (if indeed *Imlige* is a proper name). As Broccaid is called in the prose version "Broccaid of the Galian of Labraid Longsech," we must consider him to belong to Meilge's enemies, which explains the persecution of his family.

1. *brogmar* seems to be a derivative from the same stem as *mrogaim*, 'I strengthen, increase': cf. *brogda*.

*co n-gnim giall*, 'with deed of hostages,' i.e. prowess by which hostages are won: cf. *nert-giallach*, 'winning hostages by force,' LL 199 b 39.

2. *gorm-glan*. O'Dav. has '*gorm.i.urdaire*'; but perhaps the word has its ordinary meaning 'pale-coloured,' here: cf. *gorm-sluag*, LL 158 a 5.

4. *taithme* may be connected with *taithmet*, 'remembrance,' 'memorializing,' v. Wd. s. v. and Z<sup>2</sup> 881. I can make nothing of LL's reading, *taichle*.

*tiug-mire*, if it is sound, must, I think, mean 'final madness': cf. *tiug-bds*, *tiug-laithe*, *tiug-mainne*.

14. *tiamda* means either 'dark' or 'feeble': see Wd. O'Brien has the phrase *nir gnim tiamda*, which he understands as I do; but the meaning of the line is uncertain to me, as I know nothing of *teithmire*. (LL omits the accent, but it is required by the rhyme.)

17. *or i n-or*: cf. FM. p. 116, 16, '*ba han tra baoi críoch 7 torann Ereann or ind or*.'

18. *albin* is O'Brien's *ailbin* [*caerach*], 'a small parcel [of sheep]'; here 'a pack of spirits,' ACL.

22. *sernad* I suppose to be the verbal noun from O'R.'s *sernaim*, 'I loose, untie': cf. Wd. *sernim* (1).

24. *Imlige* I can only explain as gen. of *Imlech*, now Emly; but I have no reason for connecting Meilge with that place.

26. *met-snuad* may be a proper name, or may perhaps be a compound of *met* and *snuad* ('river,' O'Brien).

27 and 28. *ro-s-erdided*, *ro-s-dáiled*, I take to be passives, in which the pron. infix. appears, though quite otiose. But perhaps they are active, and *Meilge* is the subject.

*cuisce* may be for *cuindsce*, 'conflict,' SnR. O'R. has *cuisgle*, 'fight, battle.' If there is any authority for O'R.'s *cuisce*, 'a private affair, sorcery' (so O'Brien, 'a private affair, secret'), I should be tempted to read *co* for *cen*.

*cuís glé*, 'clear cause,' the reading of S<sub>3</sub> will not stand, for reasons of prosody, and *dian-usce* presupposes a dissyllable here.

30. *Life* was the name of the plain of the Liffey, not of the river itself, which was called *abann Lifi*: see FM, A.D. 454, 544, &c.

*lond-gnáth*, 'habitual-furious.'

31. I can make nothing of this line.

33. *in a shide* is not very clear; all mss. but LL read *marcach* or *mar gach*; some scribe probably mistaking *iṅa* (the reading of LL) for *mā*, and interpreting this as *marcach*: this involves *side* for *shide*, and thus spoils both rhyme and alliteration.

35. *Beirri*, or Bearra, now Beare, an old principality.

39. *sir-gail sethad*. This seems to refer to the power of satire to produce physical effects on its victims: it is said in the prose account that Faifne raised three blisters on the king. Cf. O'Curry, MC ii. 218: *gail* appears to be a by-form of *gáile*, 'stain': *sethad*, gen. of O'R.'s *seith* (f).

43. *segma* is unknown to me; nor do I understand the line.

44. *ro*, intensive, is occasionally attached to proper names, e.g. *ro-Ulad*, FB 71; *ro-Cruachan*, LL 158 a 50.

45. *se*, *doenmige*, form an irregular rhyme: *se* should be a dissyllable.

50. *asclaig* I suppose to be Wd.'s *aselang*, or *asclaing*, 'burden.' Here it seems to mean the load of slain warriors laid on the ground. *inmilid* is, perhaps, an adj. from *mil*, or *milit* (see Wd.); the metre is against reading *in milid*, as a trisyllable is required. But I am very doubtful about the whole stanza.

51, 52. The general sense is obvious, but not the syntax. *sen-duma* must be nom.; perhaps we should read *in t̄sen-duma*, construing "combeth a ainm [ainm] in t̄sen-d."

53. *tibri* I cannot explain; it seems to be sound, as it responds to *Libri*: alliteration forces us to consider it as a subst. governed by *fri*; but the ordinary meaning, 'laughter,' is quite inappropriate.

The proper names must be held responsible for the metrical irregularities of this stanza.

55. *amdarc* I have not found, but presume to be the opposite to *airdaire*. I cannot translate the v. l. *armdocht* or *armdacht* unless it mean 'stress of arms': it is said in the prose version that Broccaid 'died of a sickness (*ro-thamlaig*).

## ALMU I.

For the story see the *Fotha Catha Cruacha*, edited by Hennessy, Rev. C. II. 86, from LU, and printed by Windisch in his *Kurzgefasste Grammatik*, p. 121. See also the *Macgnimartha Find* in Oss. Soc. iv. 288; reprinted by K. Meyer, Rev. C. v. 195. As FCCn (which follows this poem closely for the most part) quotes two stanzas not contained in our text, it is probable that we are dealing with a fragment of a longer poem.

6. *nert-blad*: cf Wd. s. v. *blad*: IT III. 2. 474, *fo blad barbardachta*; SnR Index, adj. *bladach*, Aisl. m. Congl. Index.

9-12. Quoted in FCCn.

15. *Almu*-19, *alamain*. FCCn has '*ro-comled alamu dia sund cor bo ængel uli*': but this nom. would not scan in 15. Probably there was an old neuter *alam* which has been altered by etymologising scribes to *almu*, *alamu*.

17-20. Quoted in FCCn.

18. Hennessy, reading with LU *no g.*, translates, "as if it had received the lime of [all] Ireland."

22. *cu*: so LL. MS; the facs. has *co*, wrongly.

30. *chlód* may be inf. of *clóim*, 'I change,' but this does not yield any satisfactory sense. Probably it is inf. of *clóim* 'I subdue,' and may mean τὸ ἀνδρὶ δαμῆναι: cf. 41.

35. *ro-n-imderg*. Cf. FCCn, "*gabais fri grisad Cuind ocus oc a imdercad*."

36. *mudocht* seems to be an inf. form: cf. *mudugud* (42).

47. '*ra* for *i n-a ro*.

52. 'them': sc. Murni and her unborn child.

59. FCCn has "*ro diúlt a athair di ocus nir léic cucí hí, ar ro bo torrach hí, ocus asbert fria muntir a breoad ocus arai nir lam ammuđugud fri Cond*."

62-72. The MS. is partly illegible here; in 62 a dissyllable has dropped: the meaning required is 'white, fair,' &c. In 68 *b* may be the first letter of *Bendron*. cf. FCCn, § 6. But in the Macgn. F., Bodmall is called a *ban-drui*: perhaps *Bendron* is a corruption of this.

70. *cu n-ardí* perhaps belongs to *Temraig Margi*, but the separation would be rather violent.

79. *tend*, 'exact,' for which meaning cf. '*tri basa attroig go tend*,' "three spans exactly to the foot," R.I.A. L<sup>23</sup>11, p. 281. This line is defective.

82. I read the MS. as in text: fcs has *Cumull*, *marbod*.

81-84. Quoted in FCCn.

83. Wd. reads *caeh dáil*; but LL has *can*; for *dál* = 'respite,' v. Wd. and Atk. PH.

## ATH CLIATH.

THE beast which is mentioned in this poem is called, in the prose account, the Mata. Cf. Wd. s. v. *mát*, 'swine,' and Stokes' Bezz. Beitr. xix. 95. At Brug, on the Boyne, one of the seven cemeteries of Erin, there was a *Lecht Matai*, 'Grave of the Mata': see Ds. of Brug, LL 211 a 21-33, where the killing of the monster is described. The poem is attributed in LL to Colum Cille and Mongan mac Fiachna; the latter, a king of Ulster (*d.* 621) who afterwards came to be identified with Finn mac Cumhaill. Perhaps this attribution and the first and last two stanzas have been patched to a fragment of an old poem on the Mata, stanza 7 being a still later addition. The corruption of the text is evidenced by the chaotic condition of the metre. In this stanza the second and fourth lines should rhyme, the last words of the first and third being echoed in the first half of the second and fourth. These echoes are absent from lines 10, 12, 14, 22 (?), 26, 34. Lines 29-32 are in a different metre from the rest of the poem, and 31 is metrically wrong: see note.

Quite a different account of the origin of the name of Ath Cliath is given in the story of the siege of Howth: see O'C. Lect. 269. Another in *Táin Bó Cuailgne*, LL 103β.

1. *fegaid lib*: cf. *feg latt* 'see for yourself,' Atk. PH. 776, and compare the opening of the poem on Ailech, "*Déccid Ailech n-Imchill n-uaib.*"

2. *intheít* seems to mean 'goest about,' 'guardest,' ἀμφιβέθηκας.

3. *ro-dm-brat*: apparently a verb cognate to *brait*, 'captivity.'

5. *cin*: B's *cluichi* appears to be borrowed from the next line.

8. *Lecc Benn* is mentioned in the Ds. of Brug, LL 211 a 30.

9. The metre is unsatisfactory. This line should not rhyme with 10 and 12, but should be echoed in the first four syllables of 10; *secht* is not a good echo. Probably the line is an accidental dittography of 8, which has ousted the original line.

11. *as cach dít* does not give good sense, and is not echoed in 12; perhaps S<sub>1</sub>'s *'s a dóit*, 'and its hand,' (or toe) is right; but this may be a later attempt to remedy a desperate passage. I prefer *colpa* (sing.), the reading of LeH<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub> to LL's *colptha* (pl.).

14. I cannot make out this line. *cael*, in 13, is not echoed. *diamsat*: cf. IT. III. 2, 537. *i n-ilib óc* may imply that the monster was fed on maidens, as in the legends of the Minotaur and of Perseus.



15. *tass*, 'rest, abiding': .i. *comhnaidhi* O'Cl. (quoted by Stokes, Index to SnR).

16. *Brug meic ind Óc* is mentioned as one of the seven cemeteries of Erin in the *Senchas na Releic*: see Petrie *Ecl. Arch.*, note E; and the poem LU 51 b 13, BB 354 b 2.

17. *ro-sích* I suppose to be pret. of *figim*, for which Wd. gives the meaning, 'I weave.' In Ail. i. 52 occurs the form *ro fáig* (see note on Ail. ii. 8): so Lc<sub>1</sub>H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub> here read *ro fáid*, *ro fáidh*.

21. *ro-ld cur*: cf. *ro-ld cor inma rig-thech*, Fled Br. 25.

22. *ó r'fínnad cách*. I should be tempted to keep LL's *or*, and translate, 'every coast was whitened' [sc. with the bones], if I could find any authority for this position of *cách*.

23. *-forluaid*: I do not know *forluaidim*; but cf. *luad*, 'moving,' Tog. Tr.; *luadail*, 'moving,' Wd. and PH.

24. *do-s-ceir* appears to mean 'fell,' 'stranded,' as if = *do-ceir*: if so, this is a case where the force of the pron. infix. has been lost, and the *-s-* is transvected by analogy from the active verb, where it had its proper meaning. But perhaps we should read *do-s-ceird*, 'flung it'; though I do not know the simple *verbceirdim*.

25-28. This stanza, omitted by LL, is clearly due to the piety of some later scribe. The Ds. exhibits other instances of such additions.

25. *forum n-dn*, a typical *cheville*: cf. *forum n-glé*; *forum cert* in SnR. *forum* motion,' O'Don. Suppl.

29-32. This stanza, unlike the rest of the poem, is in the ordinary *debide* metre; no doubt it is an interpolation.

30. *iarn-bais* (*ern-baiss* LL); see Atk. Gloss. to Lib. Hymn.

31, 32. LL's text is corrupt; the last word of 31 (a dissyllable is required to rhyme with *segainne*) seems to have dropped out: *is glé* is a stop-gap supplied by later copyists.

33. *dar dá ler* seems to mean '[whose fame is spread] over two seas.'

*búaid h-Erind*, 'victory of Erin': cf. note on Rath Esa 8.

35. *dond h-I*, misunderstood by the scribes of H<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>, who gives *do nim*, 'from heaven.'

36. *do-s-fuo*. The subject of the verb is left quite vague.

## ATH FADAT I.

THIS poem has been translated by Stokes, RC xv. 422. I follow his version for the most part. O'Curry MC. iii. 404 gives the first two stanzas with a translation (by Sullivan?) which contains many mistakes.

7. *bulgach*: *bolg* means 'sack,' 'anything distended,' 'a bubble'; *bolgán*, 'bulge,' 'belly,' Tog. Tr.; *bolgim*, 'I swell,' *ibid.*; '*bolgach*' occurs in Aisl. m. Congl. in the sense 'bubbling': here it seems to denote the shape of the spear-head. (But cf. *bole*, 'sword' (?), Tog. Tr.)

9. *dínech*. Stokes gives the meaning adopted on the authority of Peter O'Connell: the word might also be formed from *dín* in the sense 'protector.'

15. *ragaid dar*, 'will overthrow,' Stokes; *amsaig* from *amsach*, Wd.; *amsaib*, B and Lc. from *amus*, 'attack.'

18. *-dom-* pron. 1 sing. infix: cf. for similar form of 1 pl. *ní-don-coisfet* in 26, and see Zeuss<sup>2</sup> 329.

25. *díl*, 'fate,' 'end': cf. I.T. iii. 547 (Stokes' note). This signification is perhaps, only secondary, the word being the same that commonly means 'reward,' 'retribution.'

27. *foendil*: 'straying' from its proper aim, *παλίτροπος*.

31. *fond-balc*: 'strong-soled' (?), Stokes. *fond* is the 'base,' 'foundation' of anything; the epithet seems to mean 'planted firm on his feet.'

32, 40. Fadat, who is here a man, is a woman in the following poem.

34. *ó*, LL's reading. Stokes follows most mss in reading *eo*, 'with.'

36. *dual*: cf. *amail ro pa dual dó o n-a shean-athair*, MR. 32, and *gach fer dána dual*, 'every man who hath it as an heritage.' I.T. II. 2. 128.

## ATH FADAT II.

THE metre of this poem does not conform to the strict type of the *debide*. Pairs of monosyllables are made to rhyme in 1, 2, and 9, 10, and 19, 20. Monosyllables rhyme with trisyllables in 3, 4, and 17, 18. Alliteration is not consistently observed; it is absent in 4, 6, 9, 10, 14, 19: irregular in 7, 12, 13, 16. There are no internal responses except in 19, 20 (*Sinchell, imthend*), which is perhaps an accidental case. Thus no single couplet conforms to the exact rules of prosody. There is also an excessive number of *chevilles*, five in twenty lines. Taking these facts with the rubric in LL, "*aliter secundum Christianos*," the reference to St. Sinchell, and the obscure remark in 8, we have reasons for assigning a comparatively late date to the poem. The prose account in BB refers to the "*mirabilia duorum Sincellorum*."

5. The reading *mac* for *tri* [S<sub>3</sub>H<sub>1</sub>], no doubt, arose from a copyist who read *iii* as *iii*; *triur*, in 10, was consequently altered to *dias*. [But in the prose account in LL, and the other poem, "*Monuar ní for tathaig*," Fadat is a man.]

7. According to the prose account [BB], they "were in the forms of men, with beards on them."

8. *dúig*. All mss., except LL, have *dúig*, which is perhaps right: "it may be their Lord forsook them." Bnt what does the line refer to in either case?

11. There is better authority for *ferdu* than for *ferdacht*; but it does not seem to yield satisfactory sense.

12. My reading is conjectural.

15. The difference in reading between LL and the other mss. may be due to an *hiatus* in some common archetype which was variously supplied.

17. Is *slán* an epithet of *Sinchell*, or is it predicative, agreeing with *Caichní*? Colgan, *Acta Sct.* 747, 748, gives what information there is to be had about the two S. Sinchells, but throws no light on this story.

18. *imthend* I only know in the phrase, *ar biastaib indubaib imthennaib*, LU 15 a 13 = 'sehr steif, sehr stark,' Wd. s. v. This does not fit our context.

*enech-nár* occurs as a compound adj., BB 359 β 8; *Fian meic Cumail enech-mndir*.

## ARD LEMNACHT.

THIS legend is told also in the Irish version of Nennius (ch. xxvii. ; and compare the poetical version, ch. xxx., ll. 69-92. See also BB 43 *ay*). It is also given in a tract on the Cruthnig, which is found in the Book of Lecan, f. 286<sup>b</sup>: printed in Todd's *Ir. Nenn.*, lxx. *seq.* I have found a copy of this tract in Reeves' MSS. 832 (R.I.A.). From these various accounts it appears that the Fidga were a tribe who lived in Wexford, and gave much trouble to Crimthand Sciath-bél, king of Leinster, who was unable to overcome them on account of the poisoned darts they used. At this juncture the Clann Cruthnig landed at Inbher Slaine, and offered their assistance to Crimthand, as described in this poem.

The Fochmaid, who appear here as allies of the Fidga, are not mentioned in the other sources, but they are referred to in company with the Fidga in the poem on *Druim nDairbrech*, LL 192 *a* 24.

2. The meaning seems to be that the poet rates this expedient as high as he would an act of daring.

5. *ro-sdil sciam*, 'who radiated beauty.'

7. *birda baill*. The phrase seems to mean that these tribes were a thorn in the side of Crimthand. *birda* is 'pointed, *verutus*'; the ordinary sense of *ball*, 'limb,' gives no satisfactory meaning: O'R. has *ball*, 'weapon,' but I know no other authority for this signification.

9. *ní'sldimed*. For this use of *ldaim* cf. *ní lamair iat*, 'no one dares' [to touch them]: Félixe, p. clx.

11. *cian in dail* may perhaps mean that it was long before the Fidga were deprived of this advantage (literally, 'portion'); more probably the phrase refers to their victims.

12. *bethaid* may here mean 'victus,' 'means of sustaining life.'

15. For *gabaim in*, with the meaning 'settle in,' cf. *gabsat i ndithrub*, IT i. p. 74; 'land,' 'put in,' Tog. Tr. Index.

*tair*, i.e. in Wexford.

17. These six are enumerated also in *Ir. Nenn.*, p. 121, and the tract in *Leo. ib.* lxx. S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>3</sub> read *vii.* in 19, supposing *Nar* (17) to be a distinct person.

19. *Geloin*, son of Hercules! The Picts were oddly mixed up with Greek legend: see *Ir. Nenn.*, p. 120. Several mss. read *Gaileoin*, confusing *Gelon* with the *Galians* or *Gailians*.

22. *cleth-nui*. *cleth*, 'a beam or rafter,' is used metaphorically of 'a prince, a leader'; *nui*, 'a man or woman,' O'R.: cf. Corm. s.v. *noe* and O'Dav. s.v. *nae*.

25. *anan-gonfat*: the element *anan-* is properly the neut. article + neut. rel. = *quicquid*.

27. *dáig*, 'on account of,' may here mean, (1) 'as far as the weapons [of the F.] are concerned,' i.e. 'for all they can do'; or, (2) 'with a view to their weapons,' i.e. 'in order to face them again'; or, (3) 'as a remedy against.'

31. *ro tomlacht*, pret. pass. [Z] of *do-mbligim*: cf. *co tomhlacht an aicmidh*, Ir. Nenn., p. 136.

33. I am uncertain both as to the reading and the meaning. If we adopt the *deg-ainm* of B Lc S<sub>1</sub>, the meaning will be that the lands of Fidga and Fochmand were named after these events: *ferand* being apparently nom. in apposition to *deg-ainm*. But LL has the remarkable reading, *dag-ammum* (partly supported by the *degam*, *degam* of H<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>3</sub>), which seems to contain the old dat. of *amm*, 'a band, a troop' [= *manus*], found in Ml. 36 d 19. But then the metre is wrong, and the syntax difficult to understand. Again, what is *dondraimm* [sic LL]? The *-ai-* diphthong is required by the rhyme, which is against the *dreim*, *drem*, of B Lc S<sub>1</sub> (from *drenm*, 'a throng, number').

35. *maerda* I take to be a derivative of *maer*, 'steward,' PH: O'R.'s "maor, 'steward, officer,' formerly a baron among the Scotch: *maor mór*, 'an earl.'"

## AILECH I.

THE Dindshenchas collection includes three poems on the legends connected with Ailech: those given here, and a third beginning '*Ailech Frigrend*,' which has been printed, with a translation by O'Donovan, at p. 223 of the 'Ordnance Survey of Londonderry' (1837). Each of the poems tells the stories of Corrgend and of Frigriu. LL and S<sub>1</sub> contain also a continuation of the second poem, '*Cia triallaid*,' but it is a mere versified chronicle of a later date.

A full description of this once-famous stronghold of the O'Neills is given in the Ordnance Survey volume. Some ruins on a hill known as Greenan Ely, seven miles from Londonderry, still mark the site.

This poem is an interesting example of the value of metrical tests. It is natural to set down the last six stanzas, with their references to SS. Patrick and Columba, as a later Christian addition to a pagan legend. This view is supported by an analysis of the metre employed. The first 22 stanzas (with one exception) conform pretty regularly to these conditions. In each stanza

- (1). Lines 2 and 4 *rhyme*.
- (2). There are internal *responses* between lines 1 and 2, and 3 and 4.
- (3). The last words of lines 1 and 3 are *echoed* in the first half of 2 and 4, respectively.
- (4). *Alliteration* is observed, though not in its strictest form.

If we apply these tests to the last six stanzas, we find that they answer to (1), (2), and (4), but not to (3). In the first 88 lines, if we set aside lines 57-60 (stanza 15), which are plainly Christian, we have 42 echoes required, two to each stanza. In 3 cases, out of the possible 42, the echo fails, viz. 36, 42 (see note), 80 (proper names).

If we now examine stanzas 15 and 23-28, we get a very different result. Out of the required 14 echoes, only 7 occur, and of these, one (*nirt*-*Britt* in 95, 96) is unsatisfactory, while two (102 and 104) fall on the fifth syllable, whereas in ll. 1-88 no echo falls later than the fourth syllable.

This analysis shows that the Christian part of the poem can hardly have been due to the same writer as the rest, and (what is more important) affords a general presumption in dealing with the collection as a whole, that we are justified in setting down as later in date those poems which exhibit a looser metrical structure.

1. *Imchell*, one of the builders of Ailech: cf. 49, and Ailech ii. 7.

7. *céin mair*, 'long may it last!' cf. Zimmer in KZ xxx. 27. The line is defective. Perhaps we should read *ó céin mair*: cf. SM i. 34 y: I translate this conjecture. These lines seem to refer to the *Brug meic ind Oc* on the Boyne: see FM anno 3450 and O'Donovan's note *ad loc.*

11. Perhaps we should divide *h-i t' oebnius*, translating 'in thy pleasancess' but the implied apostrophe to Ailech is awkward.

13. I suppose *Bend Báin Báith* to be the name of a hill: perhaps *bdith* is for *bdeth*, 'foolish, lustful,' and refers to Æd; but the order of words is against this.

14. *neim* is commonly used metaphorically, denoting merely 'warlike force': cf. *glacc-neme* in 67.

15. *no-d-forglem*, pres. ind. of *forgellim*. *indnu*, seemingly = *idnae*, 'weapons' (Wd.), which I take to be really the plural of *idu*, 'Schmerz' (Wd.), the radical sense being 'something keen,' 'a point.'

23. *tlaitheasid* is, perhaps, for *tlaithtenaig*, pl. of *tlaithtenach*, a derivative of *tdith*, 'gentle, weak,' similar to *laimthenach*, *toltanach*.

24. *mac Fathemain*, i.e. Corrgend: see Petrie, p. 224.

26. For the singular metaphor, cf. FB 27, *rongab imbrieth brón*, 'he took upon him the motion of a mill-stone' (Henderson).

34, 36. *cen*, i.e. 'except on these conditions.'

41-52. These stanzas have nothing to do with what precedes or follows, and seem to be an intrusion. 53-56 should follow 40. 57-60 (as pointed out above) are a later interpolation. But many poems in the collection are such patchwork that it is difficult to draw inferences with any confidence from want of arrangement and continuity.

42, 43. These lines appear to mean that it is to Corrgend that Ailech owes its fame, but it can hardly be right to divide *toirm theud*, since a dissyllable is required to respond to *Corrcend* in 41. *fo chlóí* I do not understand, and the echo in the next line is wanting. I am inclined to read *fo chli*, 'under its roof': *ní* would then echo *clí*. The phrase *fo chli cóicid Chonchobair* occurs IT i. 69, 16 but I cannot translate the passage.

46. Some verb must be supplied. I take the general sense to be that the Tuatha De Danann, seeing Ailech from their ships, were stirred with desire to possess it: cf. Ailech ii. 35-42.

51. *Coblán*. He is called *Gablán* or *Garban*, in Ailech ii. 8.

*gaela* seems to be gen. of *gáel*: cf. LL 211 a 14, *iath ngaela gairg*. The form *gaeil* occurs in PH. With the phrase *gael gráid*, cf. *fer gráid*, Wd.; *aor gráidh*, Tor. D. 202.

52. *rodfáig*. See note an Ail. ii. 8.

54. *nad ordnenn*: cf. *ní oirdnimm* (gl. abrogo) Z<sup>2</sup> 435.

58. *teora amsera*: cf. Ailech ii. 46, *in tres amser torsach domain*. On the 'six ages of the world' see Nennius, § 6 (transl. Giles).

61-84. These lines should, I think, be rearranged in the following order:—  
61-64, 77-80, 69-72, 65-68, 81-84, 73-76.

62. *innlend*; from *indtim* (?).

66. *toir*. This word should echo *óig*, and must therefore be read *tóir*: cf. IT ii. 2, 237; SnR Index.

78. *cen luíng*: cf. Ailech ii. 54.

80. Ailech was mother of the Three Collas by Eochu Domlen: see *Cóir Annamh*, Ir. T. iii. 2, 350 (where Frigriu is called Criniu).

83. *glethe* I take to be 3 pl. 2-pres. pass. of *gléim*, 'I decide,' Wd.

89. *fácbait*. This phrase denotes the invoking a saint's blessing when saying farewell to friends: cf. *fácbála nóib*, 'a saint's blessing (or curse) at parting,' Stokes in Rev. C. xii. 319; *fágbáid sláinte*, Tor Dh. 164; *fágbhaid íomchomarc beathadh agus sláinte aice*, Tor Dh. 206; *forácaib sí dosaíde ocus dia thuaithe a ngaisced for a notraigib*, &c., SG i. 237, 12. Connected with this usage is the modern phrase *fágain ar*, 'I swear by,' Hyde, Abh. Gr. 74.

93. For St. Patrick's meeting with Eogan, see Vit. Trip. (ed. Hennessy), p. 436.

108. *Daire Calgaich*, the old name of Londonderry: see Joyce, p. 486.

110. For Colum Cille's mediation between Conall and Eogan, see Lib. Hymn (ed. Atk. and Bern.) ii. 86.

111. *Codáill* seems to be a mistake for *Conall* [*Gulban*], the saint's great-grandfather.



## AILECH II.

ASCRIBED in LL to Flann Mainistrech, who died A.D. 1056 (FM).

3. According to O'Curry, MC ii. 153, this Eochaid is Eochaid O'Ceirin, a contemporary of Flann Mainistrech. If so, the O'Maelcoluim mentioned in the next line is, no doubt, 'Muireadhach ua Maelcoluim, *airchinneach* of Doire [Calgaich?],' who died A.D. 1061 (FM).

4. *Doball* was the old name of the northern Blackwater. Domhnall, king of Ailech, ob. 911 A.D., is called 'Domhnall of Dobhail' in a poem cited FM, p. 582.

8. *no fhiged*. Wd. has *figim*, 'I weave,' here applied to building. *ro fecht*, in 2, seems to be pass. pret. of the same verb. The perf. act. *ro faig* occurs in Ail. i. 52, with the same meaning. The words *faig ferb fithir* in the *Amra Colum Cille* are glossed in LU 10 b 36, .i. *no fhúaged vel no fhiged brethir*, &c. For the form cf. *seuchim*, *ro scaích*. See further note on *ro fich*, Ath Cl. 17 (Stokes, R. C. xx. 248, and Windisch, KZ xxiii. 208, render *faig* in the *Amra* 'said,' connecting the word with *iarfagim*, Lat. *voc-em*).

9. *glanda*; gen. of *glanad*, the verbal noun of *glanaim*.

18. *fer cotaig*. Literally 'man of covenant,' and so 'ally.'

36. Neit and Nemain: cf. Petrie 226, 227, and Hennessy, in Rev. C. i. 32 seq.

42. *congaib*: cf. FM, p. 2032, 7, *congaibh bidh*, 'vessels'; 2144, 5, *co n-a congaibh techta*, 'war-like engines'; 2124, y, *congaibh catha*, 'battle engines': apparently d. pl. of *cuing*, 'yoke'; cf. *cuing catha*, Tor. Dh. 194, 4.

48. I conjecture *fairend*, instead of the *fairmend* of the MSS. The *m* may be due to the influence of *airmend*: the latter word appears to be the intensive of *mend* 'bright, famous.'

54. *iar cnis clochair*. It is said, in Ailech i. 74, that the lady crossed the sea 'without a ship.' Apparently Frigriu built, or found ready, a causeway across the straits. In the poem printed by Petrie (p. 226), it is said that the pair crossed over from Cantyre.

59. *uamon* must be used here as an adjective; for the construction cf. Ir T. i. 176, *ocus cach for crith ocus for uamain remi*.

62. *ergnaid*, 'wise, klug,' Wd.; but the cognate *ergna* has the sense 'distinguished,' I. T. iii. 2, Tog. Tr.

65. *ronglenón*. There appears to be corruption here: the prosody requires a dissyllable at the end of each line.

67. *giuil*. From *glenim*.

70. *cia*. The forced and unnatural position is due to the rule that a poem must begin and end with the same word.

## BEND ETAIR I.

THIS poem is found only in LL, and there is no corresponding prose legend. The persons and events which form the subject of 13-52 are, however, referred to in one of the legends of Sliab Mairge LL 216 β 1; while the story of Aithirne and the conflict between the Ulstermen and Leinstermen, brought about by his rapacity, is fully told in the *Talland Eclair*, "Siege of Howth," which Stokes has edited from LL in Rev. Celt. viii. 47-64.

*Metre.*—In each stanza, 2 and 4 rhyme regularly, while one or both of the other lines form imperfect rhymes with these.

All lines, except 12, 46 (?), 69 (?), end in dissyllables.

The last word of the 3rd line is echoed in the 4th in all stanzas, except 1, 5, 7. In 1 and 5 proper names occur; in 7 the last line is probably corrupt.

Responses occur generally, but not quite regularly, between the 1st and 2nd lines of each stanza.

Alliteration is general, but not strictly observed.

1. *etan fri dilind*; cf. Bend Eclair II. 13, *Eclair etan fri tuind*.

2. *clár*, properly 'a board,' is extended to mean 'any flat surface'; in 50 it means 'plain': and that is perhaps the meaning here; *Eclair* being used to denote not only Howth but the flat country inland; so that *in clár cetaich* = *in clár cusna cetaib* (50). But we have also *clár fodluta* = 'flood-gate' (Stokes's Index to Rennes Dindsenchas, R. C. xvi.): and so here the meaning may be, 'barrier,' or the like.

4. If the text is sound, the meaning will be that there is no landing in Ireland possible when the sea roars against the cliffs of Howth. But I am tempted to conjecture *cen* for *con*. The meaning would then be that there was a magical sympathy between the cliffs of Howth and the fortunes of the country.

5. *Dothra*, the Dodder.

6. *ruirthéach*: the phrase in Serglige Conculaind, 18 (Ir. T. i. 211, 18), *ruirthéach do chách*, may or may not contain this same word, the meaning being uncertain there also: O'Curry's 'munificent' is a mere guess.

7. *fachta*: is this for *fechta*, 'fightings'?

For *tuilí* and *aithbe* = 'flood and ebb', see Z<sup>2</sup> 864, *note*.

8. *aichre* I suppose to be the abstract of *acher* (v. Wd.); *tráchta* [*sic* LL] may be pl. of *tracht*, 'strength': Wd. SnR. The stanza contains no verb: it is a disjointed description of the sea-beaten cliffs of Howth.

9. *ceta*: on this adverb see Zimmer Kelt. St. i. 112: cf. Sench. M. 120, *cetna ugður ceta ro buidh i n-Erinn*.

10. *carddis*. Possibly for *cartis*.

11. *ar-do-s-peitted*, v. Wd. s.v. *arbeitim*.

13. This line wants a syllable, and LL has a mark of omission, with a symbol in the margin, which is read by the fac-similist (wrongly, I think) as a *t*. Perhaps *ainm* has dropped out: this would alliterate with *óclaich*, but would not agree very well with *ós rind* in 14.

15. *bétaig* here and in 82 seems to be adj. to *bét* (v. Wd.).

16. *Aés* apparently gen.; so *Aís* in 47, but *Aíse* in 43.

18. *ro-art co h-uru A.*, i.e. his fame reached Scotland.

19. *cen chend cumga*: I do not understand this phrase. For *cumga* see Wd. s.v. *cumee* and SnR Index.

24. *rubdais* and 83 *rubad* from *benim*.

26. *iar étaib*. For this phrase cf. Féil. Index. The meaning seems to be very vague: perhaps 'in the ways [of song]' *ἐν ὁδοῖς ὑμνῶν*?

27, 28. I can make nothing of these lines. The scribe of LL has drawn a line over *nare* in 28, showing that he thought it corrupt.

29. *baith* may be for *baeth*; but here again the sense is obscure to me: I know nothing of *essiuch* in 30. The rhyme indicates the correction *essium*, which I translate; but the meaning is not clear.

31, 32. From the Dindshenchas of Sliab Mairge, LL 216 β 3, it appears that Aes was Étar's son by a first wife, as Bethe was Maig's daughter by a first husband: and these two married.

34. *sedlaig*: Wd. gives *sedlach* from a passage in the *Tochmarc Étaíne*; but the meaning ('smock'?) is uncertain, and in any case not likely to fit this passage.

35. *fodúair*, v. Wd. s.v. *fóirim*.

39. *thuinne* seems to be a by-form of *tond*.

*Telchaind*: is this for *Tulchlaind*, the old name of the Tolca (O'Curry, Lect. 269)?

42. *sithi*, apparently part. of '*sinim*, 'I stretch,'

43, 44. *Rind Chind Aíse*, *Aú Bethe* are mentioned in the Dindshenchas of Sliab Mairge.

49. *dian-mag*, 'plain of swiftmess,' 'race-course.'

50. *cétaib*, 'hundreds [of cattle]' unless it stands for *cétib*, 'fair-greens.'

68. *gabsat foraið*: cf. *dia thogail for sin filid* (60).

69. The exploits of Messdead, son of Amargen, and pupil of Cuchulaind, are celebrated in the *Talland Etaire*, but throw no light on these stanzas.

75. *róinset*, probably for *sróinset*, 'defeated,' v. Wd. *sróinim*, PH. *sráinim*.

77, 78. *ing* means literally 'a narrow pass,' metaphorically 'danger, difficulty': I suppose *do-ing* to contain the former, *ro-ing*, the latter meaning. The metre requires dissyllables.

The account given in the *Talland Etaire*, of the way in which Aithirne treated the Ulstermen shut up with him in Howth by the besieging Leinster force, explains this excessive thirst and the *epota flumina*.

"Nine watches were they in Howth without drink, without food, unless they drank the brine of the sea, or unless they devoured the clay. Seven hundred kine in sooth had Atherne in the middle of the fort, and there was not a boy or man of Ulster who tasted their milk, but the milking was cast down the cliff, so that of the Ulstermen none might find out Atherne's food to take it."—(Transl. Stokes, Rev. C. viii. 55).

## BEND ETAIR II.

THE opening stanzas are very obscure: they appear to be a glorification of the poet's art. "The legends of the places mentioned are difficult to know; but if the poet is properly rewarded [3] all shall be made plain": that seems to be the general sense.

2. *scél fromtha*: i.e. a tale which tests the poet's erudition: cf. 19, 111.

5. There seems to be no proper apodosis to *mar no-beind*: some verb must be supplied in 7.

*forgla fecht*, 'choice of fights'; cf. MR 110, *forgla Frangc ocus Find-Gall*, Lib. Hym. Index.

11, 12. *fand-éirge*, *barr-shéile*, *bith-adbail*, appear to be all descriptive of the *cóiciur*: I am very doubtful as to the meaning of the lines: *éirgin* has the special meaning of 'mustering forces': see Tor. Dh. 175, note; so I understand *éirge* as *στόλος*: my translation of *dar samlaib* is a mere guess.

13. *etan fri tuind*, cf. Bend Etaire i. 1, *etan fri dilend*.

14. *særuill* should, perhaps, be *sær-dil*; cf. 30.

25. *ro therba*, 'divided' the land, or 'divided' his people among different regions; *terbaim*, 'I separate,' SnR Index; *terba*, 'separation,' IT iii. 444; *terbud* Wd.

29. The prose version says that Brea was the inventor of the duel, of architecture, and of cooking utensils.

31. *fian-lescaig* must be a compound to correspond to *iarn-lestair* in 32; but what does it mean? *fothuga*; cf. *tuga*, 'roof'? But alliteration is against dividing *fo thuga*.

34. *ard-ler*: perhaps *ard-les*? I translate this conjecture.

35. The metre is satisfied by *théitmer* as a response to *cét-pher*, but what is the meaning?

37. *co becht* may mean 'for certain,' or, perhaps, 'for good and all.'

39. *sluag-bann*; cf. BB 408 b 48, *Diach na sluagh-band slán*.

41. This stanza occurs in the Ds. of Cnucha [Eg. 1781], v. Stokes, *The Edinburgh Dindsenchas*, p. 77, with a different third line: also *étrocht* is corrupted to *ó trocht*. Two other stanzas follow, which do not occur in our text. For the five sons of Dela, v. FM. a.m. 3266.

45. The prose version tells us that Etar was the first woman to die of grief for her husband.

46. *rorús* must mean 'prince,' or the like.

55. i.e. *Although* another Etar possessed the place, it really took its name from the wife of Gand.

56. Etar mac *Élgáith* is identical with the Etar mac *Éibáith* of Bend Etaire, i. 16; see Ds. of Sliab Mairge.

57. *elgnus* is presumably connected with *elgna*, 'murder' (Ir. T. iii. 2, Index), *elgai*, 'homicide' (?), Ir. T. ii. 2, 179.

65. *ruirmed* = *ro fuirmed*: see W., *fuirmin*. The form would naturally be referred to the simple verb *rimin*, but this would not satisfy the sense.

66. *ruibnech* seems to be adj. to *ruibne*, 'lance' (Wd.), 'slaughter' (Cath. Fint. Index, s. v. *bine*). At Rath Esa, 32, *na ríog ruibnech*, the word may be the same as here, or may be derived from *ruibne*, 'host' (Wd.).

67. *chóe*: cf. *an-chói*: Ir. T. iii. 2, Index. Or the word may be = *cdi*, grief, 'beyond every abiding grief.'

69. *caile*, 'chalk,' with which shields were whitened; hence put for the shield itself: v. Wd.; Tog. Tr. Index. The cheville is, as usual, difficult to interpret exactly. Perhaps the meaning is that mac Dorbglais was 'a fitting shield.' The adjective appears to be put before its noun occasionally by poetical license.

71. *esair* may mean (1) 'litter', (2) 'eating' (*esar*, Wd.). The meaning may be that there was no 'wake.'

77—end. refers to the *Orgain Bruidhne da Derga*, on which see O'C. Lect. 258; Zimmer in KZ xxviii. 554.

79, 80. If *bith-gábaid* is a compound from *gabud*, 'danger,' the *a* is long, and therefore *dámaig* is to be referred to *dám*, 'a company,' &c. (Wd.).

83. *Daire* may be a proper name, but I know nothing of any such person.

95. *noísech néime*: for the construction, cf. *ba h-álgen cuirmthigi*: Ir. T. iii. 486.

100. *liac* is a dissyllable; H<sub>1</sub>, regarding it as a monosyllable, substitutes *cecha* for *cech*; Lc YS<sub>1</sub>, for the same reason, write *a lig*.

103. *toiche* = *toiched* (v. Wd.); 'confiscation,' O'R., a legal term.

107. *gairm n-gairthi*, 'cry of calling,' i.e. 'roll-call,' 'muster.'

111. *fromtha*: the reading of Y seems to be right; cf. 2.

## VOCABULARY.

- acbéil, 'terrible,' Faff. 42, Tog. Tr.
- adcomad, 'lacerated' (?), Ath. C. 28; *athchumha*, 'wounding, laceration,' W.; *athchumbain*, Tog. Tr.; *athchumadh*, 'to discomfort,' Tor. Dh. 92, 21.
- ái, 'art, knowledge,' Ail. i. 62, ACL.
- aichde, 'work, employment,' Ail. i. 84, MR 78, ACL.
- aichre, 'bitterness, fierceness,' B. Et. i. 8, ACL; 'sharpness,' SG i. 335, 1.
- ailig(í), 'rocky,' Ail. ii. 48; for *ailiuch*, d. of *ailech*, from *ail*, W. [? subst. Joyce 283, from O'Cl.]
- ailt 'house, abode,' Ail. i. 56, W, SnR, RC, Ds.
- ainmed, 'blemishing, satirizing,' Faff. 44, ACL (*ainnim*).
- airce, 'difficulty, trouble,' Ail. i. 55, ACL.
- aire, 'a chief, a prince,' Ail. i. 107, ACL W. [Perhaps this is rather *aire*, 'hedge,' ACL, here used metaph. for 'protector.']
- airech, 'a chief, a noble,' B. Et. i. 51, ACL.
- airer-glan, 'of a bright country,' R. Es. 15, 23, 89, from *airer*, 'territory,' ACL. [Perhaps rather from *airer*, 'pleasure,' W, PH, ACL.]
- air-mend, 'very famous,' Ail. ii. 48; *menn*, 'clear,' W; 'famous,' Ir. T. iii. 526.
- aithbe, 'ebb-tide,' B. Et. i. 7, ACL.
- alamu, almu, 'white-wash' d. *alamain*, Almu, 19, 15, RC ii. 86.
- albín, 'drove, pack,' Faff. 18, ACL, O'Br. (*ailbhín*).
- amdarc, 'obscure,' Faff. 55; opposite to *airdaire*.
- angbaid, 'cruel,' B. Et. i. 53, Tog. Tr., SnR.
- ard-ler (?), B. Et. ii. 34.
- ár-mag, 'battle-plain,' Ail. ii. 50; I. T. iii. 2, MR 84.
- arm-shlán, 'protected by arms, fully-armed (?), or, unhurt by weapons(?),' Ail. ii. 6.
- aslaig, 'attempt,' B. Et. i. 3; *aslach*, 'persuasion, temptation,' W.
- athach, 'groaning,' Almu 33; *athach*, 'breath, wind,' W. [Perhaps we should read *atach*, 'demand,' W.]
- athelluch, 'restitution,' R. Es. 47, SnR, Metr.
- baeth-rún, 'secret of lust' (?), B. Et. ii. 23; *baeth* in the sense of 'lustful,' SnR.
- ball, (1) 'weapon,' Ard L. 7, O'R.
- ball, (2) 'spot': see *serc-ball*.
- bán-bechta, 'pure of conduct,' B. Et. i. 46; *beachta*, 'behaviour,' O'R.
- baith (?) = *baeth*, 'foolish,' B. Et. i. 29.
- barr-fhéile, 'chief in honour,' B. Et. ii. 12; *féile*, '*honestas, verecundia*,' W.

- becht**, 'fixed, certain'; *co becht*, 'for good and all,' B. Et. ii. 37; *go beachd*, 'for ever,' O'R.
- belgach**, 'possessing roads' (?), R. Es. 69, from *belach*, 'road.'
- bert búada**, 'trophy,' Ail. ii. 28; *beirt*, 'deed,' IT iii. 2. 539; *beirt pian*, SnR 7171.
- bétach**, (1) 'adventurous,' (2) 'won by adventure,' B. Et. i. 15, 82, from *bét*, 'deed,' &c., W.
- bine**, 'crime,' Faff. 23, Ail. ii. 20, SnR.
- bir-chinn**, 'lance-headed' (?), Ail. i. 46; *bir*, 'spit, spear,' W.
- birda**, 'sharp-pointed, *verutus*,' Ard L. 7, Tog. Tr., Z.
- blaid**, 'force' (?), Ail. i. 39; *ro-blaid*, Ail. ii. 62; *bladaim*, 'I break,' MR 70, 2. [Perhaps *ner-t-blad*, Almu 6, should be referred to this word, instead of to *blad*, 'fame.']
- borb-leng**, 'wild-whirling' (?), Ail. i. 26; *borb*, 'rough fierce,' &c., W; *lingim*, 'I leap,' W.
- brat**, 'took by force, made captive' (?), Ath Cl. 3; *brat*, 'captivity,' PH.
- bráu**, 'mill-stone,' Ail. i. 26; *bró*, W.
- brethach**, 'judicial,' Faff. 19, Ail. ii. 36, SnR, LU 50<sup>b</sup> 18.
- brianna**, 'bits, fragments,' Faff. 23; 'parts, or divisions,' O'R., quoting O'Cl., "*brianna*, i. *mirreanna no greamana*."
- brogmar**, 'powerful,' Faff. 1; *brogda*, 'excessive, great,' W.; *broghad*, 'increase, advancement, &c.,' O'R.; and see W. s. v. *nrogaim*.
- bruthmar**, 'fervent, eager,' R. Es. 2 from *bruth*, 'fervour,' W.
- bulgach**, 'bulging, broad-pointed,' Ath. F. i. 7, from *bulg*, 'sack, anything swollen'; *bolcach*, 'bubbling,' AMC.
- búrim**, 'I shout,' B. Et. i. 73, Tog. Tr., AMC.
- cael**, 'belly, guts' (?), Ath. Cl. 13, 28; *coeldn*, 'entrails,' AMC.
- cæmna**, 'protection,' Ail. ii. 27, O'R., SM iv. 104, 2, and 10.
- cainteach**, 'pitiful, unseemly, degrading,' Almu 47; 'mournful,' Tog. Tr.
- cairib**, 'blame' (?), Ail. i. 17, d. pl. of *caire* (?), W.
- cardáis** (?), B. Et. i. 10. [Perhaps for *cartais* = *cartis*.]
- cechainng**, 'advanced, proceeded,' Ail. ii. 19, red. pf. of *cingim*, W.
- céillech**, 'wise,' R. Es. 42; *céillidh*, O'R., from *ciáll*.
- cicuil** (?), Ail. ii. 14.
- clemnus**, 'marriage-affinity,' B. Et. ii. 58; *cleamhnas*, O'R. 3 Sh.
- cleth-chur**, 'kindred,' Faff. 10: *cleath-chur*, O'R.
- cleth-núí**, 'princely person,' Ard L. 22: see Notes.
- clíab**, 'chest,' Ath Cl. 21, Tog. Tr.; *clíab*, 'corbis,' W., is, no doubt, the same word.
- clochar**, 'causeway,' Ail. ii. 54; 'stony land,' Féil.; 'heap of stones,' Tog. Tr.
- clóí** (?), Ail. i. 41.
- clóí** (?), Ail. i. 99. [Perhaps for *clú*, 'renown,' W.]
- cluithi-drenn**, 'rough-sporting,' Ath. Cl. 6, from *cluche*, 'play,' W., and *drenn*, 'rough, violent,' W.
- cnes**, 'skin, surface,' of rocks, B. Et. i. 6, Ail. ii. 54, W.
- cobra**, 'joy' (?), B. Et. ii. 21, SnR.
- cóe**, 'road,' B. Et. ii. 67, *oen-chóí* Féil.
- comríar**, 'equal rule' (?), B. Et. ii. 90; 'will,' SnR.
- cotach**, 'alliance, covenant,' Ail. ii. 18, SnR, Tog. Tr.; *comcotach*, Ir. T. iii. 439.
- cráidim**, 'I torment,' Faff. 27; inf. *crád*, Ail. i. 34, Ail. ii. 19, W.



- crídi-cráo**, 'heart's blood' (?), Ail. i. 25; *crú*, W.
- crúas**, 'weight, strength,' Ail. i. 53, Ail. ii. 30; *ro-chrúas*, 'great valour,' SnR.
- cuidbe**, 'equality, rivalry,' B. Et. ii. 50; '*concinntas*,' Féil.: cf. *cubaid*, *cuibdius*, W.
- cúimsi**, 'proportion, harmony,' B. Et. ii. 7, Wb 22a, 2: adj. 'convenient,' Wb 14 a 3.
- cuiscle**, 'conflict,' Faff. 27; *cuisgle*, 'strife,' O'R.; *cundsclí*, *cuindsle*, Tog. Tr., Ir. T. iii. 571, SnR.
- cumga**, 'narrow' (?), B. Et. i. 19; cf. *cumce*, 'straits,' &c., W.
- cuinig**, 'besought,' Almu 11; *cuindigin*, W.
- curaim**, 'I chastise,' Faff. 45; *curad*, 'chastisement,' SM ii. 186, 9, iii. 156, 24.
- daigrech**, 'fiery,' Ath. F. i. 11; *daigh*, 'flame,' Tog. Tr.; *daigerde*, 'fiery,' W.
- dáil**, R. Es. 52, 78, 'decree, sentence,' CMT, Bor.
- dámach**, 'having a retinue,' B. Et. ii. 79, from *dám*, 'retinue,' W.
- dathe**, 'active,' B. Et. i. 41, Ir. T. iii. 440.
- debech**, 'strife,' Ail. ii. 58, Ir. T. ii. 1, 139.
- dechenbar**, 'ten persons,' Ath. F. ii. 4, Féil.
- dechraigim**, 'I divide, distinguish, mark out,' Ail. i. 55, SnR, Ir. T. iii. 5, Z.
- deg-fhóir**, 'good support,' Ard L. 20, SG i. 28, 35; *foirim*, 'I help,' PH.
- demne**, 'certainty,' Ail. ii. 45, from *demin*, 'safe, certain,' W.
- der**, 'daughter,' Ail. i. 77, Corm. 61, Metr.
- descin**, 'seeing,' R. Es. 88; inf. of *déccim*, W.
- dichlochad**, 'quarrying' (?), 'clearance of stones' (?), R. Es. 59, from *cloch*, W.
- díchned**, 'beheading,' Ard L. 24, ACL i. 1, 8, = *dichennad*, PH.
- díl**, 'fate,' Ath. F. i. 25, Bor., Ir. T. iii. 547.
- dínech**, 'healing draught,' Ath. F. i. 9. [So Stokes, quoting Peter O'Connell, s. v. *díneoch*.]
- dírmach**, 'of the hosts,' Faff. 7, from *dírinn*, 'host,' W.
- docht**, 'strong, secure,' B. Et. ii. 9; 'tight, strict,' SnR, 3 Sh.
- doenmige**, 'misery,' Faff. 46, SnR, from *doinnech*, 'wretched,' PH.
- do-ing**, 'not narrow' (?), B. Et. i. 77, from *ing*, q. v.
- do-láed**, 'ill song, song of sorrow,' B. Et. ii. 22, from *laed*, W.
- domna**, 'cause, ground,' Almu 58 = *damma*, W.
- drechtach**, 'numerous,' Ath. F. i. 35, from *drecht*, 'portion, number,' W., O'Dav. 74
- drongach**, 'multitudinous,' R. Es. 93, Ail. ii. 41, from *drong*, W.
- druine**, 'strong' (?), Ail. ii. 44; *druin*, W: [or 'strength' (?), (gen. sing.)].
- duibe**, 'stain,' B. Et. ii. 42; 'blackness,' O'R.
- duilge**, 'difficulty, trouble,' B. Et. ii. 49, Ed. Ds. § 77.
- dulig**, 'sorrowful,' Ail. ii. 16: *duilig*, 'difficult,' Tog. Tr.; *doilig*, 'hard, grievous, wretched,' PH.
- éirge**, 'muster, levy,' B. Et. ii. 11: see Notes.
- elgnus**, 'murderous, hostile temper,' B. Et. ii. 57: cf. *elgna*, 'murder,' Ir. T. ii. 2, 179 [for *elg-gnás* (?)].
- eltach**, 'rich in herds,' Ail. ii. 1, Tog. Tr.
- enech-nár**, 'modest-faced,' Ath. F. ii. 18, BB 359<sup>b</sup>, 8.

- eol (?), Ath Cl. 14.
- ercaim, 'I fill,' B. Et. i. 65, Ir. T. iii. 526, KZ xxx. 100, SnR.
- ermór, 'great part,' Ail. ii. 3, Féil., FM p. 994, 2.
- ernaig, 'implements,' Ail. ii. 50, = *iarnaig*, 'things of iron' [sc. weapons], I. T. iii. 2: so *ernbas* = *iarnbds*.
- essiuch (?), B. Et. i. 30: see Notes.
- fachta, B. Et. i. 7, (?) for *fechta*, 'fightings'; *fecht* W.: *facht*, 'fighting,' O'R.
- fadb, 'knot,' B. Et. ii. 19, Tog. Tr. = *odb*, W.
- fáel, 'kind, noble,' Ail. i. 10, Ail. ii. 8; *fáil*, 'generous,' O'R.
- fáig, 'wove, built (?),' Ail. i. 52: see Notes.
- fáil = *fael* (?), q. v. Ail. i. 24, 70.
- fairmend (?), the reading of LL and H1 in Ail. ii. 48: see Notes.
- fáth, 'poetry, poem' (?), B. Et. ii. 18, Ail. i. 103, Metr., 'instruction,' SnR.
- fecht, 'was built' (?), Ail. ii. 12: see Notes on Ail. ii. 8.
- ferdacht, 'manhood, virility,' Ath F. ii. 11, Ard L. 2, O'R.
- fesbaide, 'would be known,' B. Et. ii. 105, 3 s. 2-fut. pass. *fétar*, W.
- fian-lescaig (?), B. Et. ii. 31.
- fích, (1) 'wove,' 'constructed' (?), Ath Cl. 17: see Notes.
- fích, (2) 'land,' Ard L. 15, Metr., 'town,' W.
- find-bile, 'fair scion' (?), R. Es. 81: see Notes.
- find-blai, 'fair land,' R. Es. 66; *bla* [5 & 6], W.; *blá*, 'fair-green,' CMT; *sid-bla*, LL 164 β, 37; *leth-blai*, LL 211 α, 7.
- fodaenal (?), Ail. i. 3.
- fodal, 'art, science,' B. Et. ii. 18, I. T. iii. 1, 6.
- foglach, 'robber, pirate,' Ail. ii. 61, Top. P. p. 10, ll 13, 22.
- fograch, 'sounding,' B. Et. i. 33, from *fogar*, 'sound,' W.
- foluig (?), Ail. i. 31 [or *fo luig* (?)].
- forba, 'slaying,' B. Et. ii. 6, Metr. 79, I. T. iii. 548.
- forluaidim, 'I toss, agitate,' Ath Cl. 23: cf. *luathaim*, 'I move, drive,' W.
- fornsta, 'steadfast,' B. Et. ii. 52, SM ii. 278, 24; *forasda*, 'sedate,' O'R.
- fohart, 'territory,' Ail. ii. 59, LL 35<sup>a</sup>, 11. Here apparently a proper name.
- fohuga, 'covered' (?), B. Et. ii. 31; *tuga*, 'cover, roof,' W.
- frais, 'attack' (?), B. Et. ii. 15, VB.
- fuachalda, 'wordy' (?), R. Es. 43, from *focul*, 'word,' W., the spelling being perhaps influenced by *fuach*, 'a word,' Corm. 56; *fuach* i. *rann*, O'Dav., 85.
- fualang, 'giddiness, folly, *étourderie*,' B. Et. i. 38; MR 232, 2: BB 457<sup>b</sup>, 22; FM, p. 2360, 5.
- fuilngech, 'enduring, hardy,' R. Es. 30: cf. *fulangim*, 'I support,' W.
- fulla, 'delusion,' R. Es. 74, 94; 'madman,' Ir. T. iii. 441.
- fuirmech, 'set in order' (?), LL's reading at R. Es. 30; *fuirmim*, 'I arrange,' W.
- gairge, 'fierceness,' B. Et. i. 62, O'R.; *garg*, W.
- garg-brut, 'rough mass' (?), Ail. ii. 64.
- gécach, 'branching,' metaph. 'prolific,' B. Et. ii. 47, from *géc*, 'branch,' W.
- gibis, 'valley,' Ail. ii. 38, O'R.
- glán, for *glan*, 'pure' (?), Ail. i. 101.
- gléir, 'bright,' Ail. i. 106; *glèr*, Tog. Tr., SnR.
- gletín (?), Ail. ii. 14; *gleitinn*, 'hard fight,' O'R.; *glèden*, 'battle' (?), CGG, 180, 9.
- glór, 'pure,' Ail. ii. 64, SnR = *gluair*, W., Ail. ii. 57.

- gnófach**, 'beautiful,' Almu 25; *gnóiech*, 'delightful,' Ir. T. iii. 342: see W. s. v. *gnoe*. O'R. has *gnóthach*, 'active.'
- gor**, 'hot,' Faff. 18, Coneys; *gor*, 'fire,' W.; *goraim*, 'I warm,' Z.
- grenchas** (?), Ail. i. 86.
- gringen** for *grinn-gein*, 'comely scion' (?), Ail. i. 87; *grind*, 'lovely,' W; *gein*, 'child,' W.
- hé**, 'alas!' Ath F. i. 25; *é*, Metr.
- iar-dub** [? LL has *imduba*], 'black-backed, black-sided,' B. Et. ii. 32: cf. *iar-comla*, *iar-shtiss*, AMC.
- llib**, 'numbers' (?), Ath Cl. 14, W.
- imréil**, 'very clear,' B. Et. ii. 3; *réil*, W.
- imsholus**, 'very bright,' B. Et. ii. 8; *sollus*, W.
- imthétim**, 'I go round, guard,' Ath Cl. 2, *imthétim*, 'I walk about,' W.: cf. *imthéicim* and *imthigim*, 'ich gehe schützend um—,' W.
- indnu**, 'weapons (?), wounds (?),' Ail. i. 15: see Notes.
- ing**, 'narrow place, straits, danger,' B. Et. i. 67; 'peril,' W.; 'neck of land,' O'R.; 'dangerous pass,' LHy: cf. *do-ing*.
- innlend**, 'prepares, adorns' (?), Ail. i. 62, for *indlenn*, "consuetudinal" of *indtim* (?).
- irgna**, 'distinguished, conspicuous,' B. Et. ii. 10 = *ergna*, W.
- laga**, 'hollow' (?), B. Et. ii. 85; *lag*, 'a hollow,' O'R.
- lead**, 'mangling,' Ath F. i. 19, SnR; *leó*, .i. *leatra nó guin*, O'Dav.
- lond-bras**, 'wild-sudden,' Faff. 6; *lond*, 'wild, &c.,' W.; *bras*, 'quick, nimble,' W.
- lond-gnáth**, 'wild of wont,' Faff. 30; *gnáth*, 'customary,' &c., W.
- luig** (?), Ail. i. 31.
- magda**, 'vast, huge,' Ail. i. 50; *mochta*, 'magnified,' W. (and cf. *mogda*, W.); *mag*, *mog*, 'great,' W.
- maerda**, 'lordly,' Ard L. 35; *maer*, 'steward' AMC; *maor*, .i. *breathamh*, O'Dav.
- mairt**, Ail. i. 36, gen. of *mart*, 'death,' O'R. (?). [Possibly a by-form of *marlain*, inf. of *maraim*, or *Mairt*, 'of Mars' (?).]
- marb-lia**, 'grave stone,' Ail. i. 36.
- mertaim**, 'I deceive, lead astray,' B. Et. i. 38: cf. SnR 3029, 1712, &c.; [but RC xvi. 159, 'kill'].
- mét-snúad**, 'great of form, extensive,' Faff. 26; *snúad*, 'form, appearance,' W.
- mithise**, 'respite, truce,' R. Es. 77, Tog. Tr., VB; *mithis*, 'armistice,' Ir. T. iii. 580.
- mongda**, 'long-haired,' Ail. i. 79; *mong*, 'hair,' W.
- mothaire** (?), Faff. 31, *dub. lect.*
- mudaigim**, 'I destroy,' Almu 52, Ail. ii. 25, B. Et. ii. 108, Ir. T. iii. 580, Tog. Tr., SnR.
- mudocht**, 'destruction' (?), Almu 36, inf. of *mudaigim* (?).
- necht**, 'pure,' Ail. i. 93, Féil., SnR.
- nóisech**, 'noble, famous,' B. Et. ii. 95, Ir. T. iii. 547, SnR.
- 6o** (?), Ath Cl. 14.
- 6i-derg**, 'red-cared,' B. Et. i. 55; *aigfhinda oi-dergga*, LL 27<sup>a</sup>, 25; *ó*, 'ear,' W.
- oraig**, 'champions, chiefs' (?), B. Et. i. 59; *dagh-orraigh*, 'goodly dynast,' Top. P. 6, 16. [Or perhaps adj. to *or*, 'shore,' W.]
- ordnenn**, Ail. i. 54, pres.-consuet. of *ordnim*, 'I ordain, I honour,' W., Z., AMC (?).

- rathach**, 'lucky, favoured,' Ail. ii. 53; *rath*, 'gratia,' &c., W.
- ronglenón** (?), Ail. ii. 65, *dub. lect.*
- rorús**, 'prince' (?), B. Et. ii. 46.
- ruibnech**, (1) 'mangled,' B. Et. ii. 66; (2) 'slaughtering,' R. Es. 32, CF: *ruibne*, 'lance,' W., 'slaughter,' CF.
- ruirthrech**, 'rushing' (?), B. Et. i. 6, for *ro-rethach*, RC xx. 259, *note*
- saiched**, 'pursued' (?), Ail. i. 75, from *sechur*, 'I follow,' &c. W. [for *seiched*], or *sagim*, 'I approach,' &c., W. [for *saiged*].
- saíle**, 'sea,' B. Et. i. 27, B. Et. ii. 59, Féil.
- saíth**, 'troublesome, unprofitable' (?), B. Et. ii. 55; *sáith*, 'bad, mean,' &c., W.; *sáeth*, 'sorrow, trouble,' W.
- sedlad** (?), Faff. 45.
- sedlaig** (?), B. Et. i. 34.
- segainn**, 'deer,' Ath Cl. 32; *ban-segainn*, 'doe' (?), Ir. T. iii. 438.
- segair**, 'is said, is called,' B. Et. ii. 75; *saigim*, *sagim*, 'I say,' W. [or 'abides'; *segar* .i. *tarrustar*, O'Dav.].
- seigma** (?), Faff. 43.
- selg**, 'seed, race' (?), B. Et. ii. 26 = 1. *selg*, W. (?)
- serc-ball**, 'love-spot,' Faff. 16: cf. *ball seirce*, Tor. Dh. 50, *note* 2.
- sernad**, 'dispersion, discerption' (?), Faff. 22; *sernim*, 'I loose, scatter,' W.
- seth** (?) **sith** (?), 'skin,' Faff. 39; *seith*, *seithedh*, 'skin, hide,' O'R.
- siblech**, 'traveller, rnnaway,' Ail. i. 75, SM i. 190, 18.
- sír-gail**, 'lasting stuin, blemish' (?), Faff. 39: cf. *gaille*, 'stain,' PH SnR 3902.
- sithi**, 'stretched out, level,' B. Et. i. 42: pt. of *sinim*, W.
- slán**, 'healing, reparation,' Ail. i. 33; 'indemnity,' O'D. Suppl.
- slas**, 'was killed,' Ath Cl. 16; pret. pass. of *slaidim*, W.
- slimad**, 'praising, eulogy' (?), B. Et. ii. 3; *sliomain*, 'I flatter,' O'R.
- sneid**, 'straight, upright' (?), Ail. i. 71, SnR.
- sód**, 'pleasure,' Ard L. 36, FM, p. 1502, 1571; *sódh*, 'happiness, content,' O'R.
- taichle** (?), Faff. 4 [LL], *dub. lect.*
- tairbirt**, 'subduing army, invasion' (?), Ail. i. 81; 'subjugation,' PH; 'vigour,' RC Ds.; *tairbrim*, 'I subdue,' W.
- tairm** (?), Faff. 31; 'noise,' W.
- taithme**, 'narrative, commemoration,' Faff. 4; *taithmet*, 'memory, mentioning,' W.
- tas**, 'rest, repose, dwelling-place,' Ath Cl. 15; 'dwelling, habitation,' O'R.
- táthál** (?), 'sling,' Ath F. i. 21; *tathlaim*, 'slinging' (?), RC Ds.; *tathlum*, 'sling-stone,' MC. Index.
- tecmaisín**, 'happening, occurrence,' B. Et. ii. 110, SM i. 252, 26; ii. 194, 20.
- teitmer** (?), B. Et. ii. 35.
- teithmíre** (?), Faff. 14.
- terbaim**, 'I divide, separate,' B. Et. ii. 25, SnR; *terba*, 'separation,' Ir. T. iii. 444; *terbud*, 'separation,' W.
- tí**, 'intent,' Ail. i. 43, W. The word implies especially *hostile* intent: cf. Oss. vi. 12, *níor sgarais acht ar dr dtí*.
- táeb-lán**, 'full-sided, pregnant,' Almu 50.
- timnad**, 'charge,' B. Et. i. 56; *timnna*, 'mandate, bequest,' &c., W.; *timn-naim*, 'I assign, bestow,' W.
- tiug-míre**, 'final madness,' Faff. 4; *tiug*, 'end,' W.; *míre*, 'madness,' W.
- tláithenaid**, 'tame, feeble of temper' (?) Ail. i. 23; *tláith*, 'soft,' &c., W. See Notes.

- tlí**, 'delight,' Ail. i. 97, SnR, O'Cl.  
**tnú**, 'jealousy' (?), Ail. i. 27 = *tnúth*,  
 W.; *i. coicilt*, O'Dav.  
**tóí**, 'silence' (?), Ail. i. 59, W.  
**toiche**, 'possession,' B. Et. ii. 103;  
*toich*, 'property,' W.; *toiched*, 'con-  
 fiscation,' O'R.  
**toil** (?), 'will,' 'willing service,' Ail.  
 ii. 26; 'will,' W.  
**toimsech**, 'measurement, period' (?),  
 Ail. ii. 46: cf. BB 355 b 38.  
**toirmthend** (?), Ail. i. 42.  
**tomlacht**, 'was milked,' Ard L. 31,  
 pret. pass. of \**dombligim*.  
**torged**, 'came' (?), Ail. ii. 14; *torgim*,  
 'I come,' W.  
**trácta**, 'assaults' (?), B. Et. i. 8;  
*tracht*, 'strength,' W., SnR (?), AMC.  
**trait**, 'quick, sudden,' Ail. i. 38; *traid*  
*.i. luath*, O'Cl.; *traite*, 'quickness,'  
 W.
- trebáid** (?), 'lasting,' Ail. ii. 46, inten-  
 sive of *báid*, 'long lasting,' 'durable,'  
 W.  
**trén-sheng**, 'strong and narrow,' Ail.  
 i. 22.  
**túairse**, 'remnant,' B. Et. ii. 102, RC  
 Ds.  
**tuinne**, 'wave' (?), B. Et. i. 39; *toná*,  
 'wave,' W.
- úag**, 'grave' (?), B. Et. ii. 76; Ir. T.  
 iii. 586.  
**úar-bél**, 'cold-lipped,' B. Et. ii. 86.  
**úais**, (1) 'noble,' Ail. i. 62, ii. 30, SnR,  
 Ir. T. iii. 586.  
**úais**, (2) 'height, extremity,' Ail. i. 64,  
 O'Don. Suppl.



Royal Irish Academy

TODD LECTURE SERIES

VOL. VIII.

THE METRICAL DINDSENCHAS

PART I.

TEXT, TRANSLATION, AND COMMENTARY

BY

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*Ms. I. 1-71  
Ms. I. 1-82  
Dindenchas*

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100

# CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PREFACE, . . . . .	v
LIST OF MANUSCRIPTS, . . . . .	ix
ABBREVIATIONS EMPLOYED, . . . . .	x
TEXT AND TRANSLATION :—	
TEMAIR I., . . . . .	2
TEMAIR II., . . . . .	6
TEMAIR III., . . . . .	14
TEMAIR IV., . . . . .	28
TEMAIR V., . . . . .	38
ACHALL, . . . . .	46
NOTES, . . . . .	55



## PREFACE.

THE *Dindsenchas* is a collection of legends connected with the origin of Irish place-names. These legends have been handed down in two forms, prose and verse. Most of the prose versions have been published in vols. 15 and 16 of the *Revue Celtique* by Dr. Whitley Stokes, who has taken as his basis the copy contained in the Rennes MS., adding supplements from the Book of Lecan and the Book of Leinster.

In the seventh volume of the Todd Lecture Series, I printed a few specimens of the metrical versions; and in the preface I expressed my intention of attempting a complete edition of the verse *Dindsenchas*. The present volume is the first instalment of this undertaking. Of the poems on Tara, the first four have already been twice edited; first in Petrie's essay on the Antiquities of Tara Hill, the translations being apparently due to O'Donovan; secondly, by J. O'Beirne Crowe, in vol. 2, ser. 4, of the *Kilkenny Archæological Journal*. Neither of these editions contains anything like a complete critical apparatus. The composition described as "Temair V." is so called for convenience, and because it is grouped in the MSS. along with the Tara poems; it is really little more than a string of names. The poem on Achall has already been edited by O'Curry in his *Lectures on the Materials of Irish History*.

In constructing the text, the reading of LL has generally

been followed (when not intrinsically objectionable), even against the consent of all other MSS. In passages where it is the sole authority, its text is reproduced without alteration (except at Achall, 84). Collations of S<sub>3</sub> and V were originally included in the critical apparatus, but were subsequently discarded as superfluous, except for Temair I. which is partially illegible in some copies, and Temair V. which is not contained in the best MSS.; and in a few scattered cases. Mere varieties of spelling are not recorded, excepting in the case of place-names: the symbol "etc." denotes that different MSS. have the same reading differently spelled. Contractions have been expanded without the use of italics where there appeared to be no possibility of error. In the choice of forms, considerations of metre make it impossible to be quite consistent. I have taken as my standard the general practice of the LL copy; it is to be observed that this part of LL differs in certain points from other sections of the Book, such as its copy of the *Táin Bó Cualnge*. Even within the limits of the *Dindsenchas*, LL exhibits much variety; thus in case-endings, *e* and *i* interchange without other apparent law than the caprice of the scribe. So far as I have observed (taking all genders together), *e* predominates in nom. gen. and dat. sing.; while in the acc. sing. and nom. plu. *i* is equally common. The difficulty of obtaining any general rule is increased by the uncertainty as to the gender of many nouns, and the tendency of nouns which in Old Irish are neuter, to pass into the masculine or feminine.

In marking aspirations I have been guided by Pedersen's treatises (I. *Aspirationen i Irsk.*, Leipzig, 1897: II. *Die Aspiration im Irischen*, Kuhn's Zts., xxxv. 3); in doubtful cases, I have followed LL where it was possible.

As I hope some day to publish a complete Glossary to the whole *Dindsenchas*, I have not added one to the present volume; where the rendering given is more or less conjectural, my grounds are stated in the commentary.

Questions as to the origin of the collection, the relation of the prose to the metrical versions, and the grouping of the MSS. must be deferred for the present. On points of topography, I have relied on O'Donovan; in the absence of any Dictionary of Geography, I have thought it useful to give copious references to printed works.

My thanks are due to Dr. R. Atkinson for constant criticism and assistance; and to M. Georges Dottin by whose kindness I have been able to procure a photograph of the Rennes copy of the *Dindsenchas*.

EDWARD GWYNN.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

*March*, 1903.



MANUSCRIPTS OF THE *DINDSENCHAS*

CITED IN THIS VOLUME.

- L (or LL) = The Book of Leinster, Trinity College, H. 2. 18  
(1339).
- R = The Rennes MS.
- B (or BB) = The Book of Ballymote, Royal Irish Academy.
- Y (or YBL) = The Yellow Book of Lecan, Trinity College, H. 2. 16  
(1318).
- H = Trinity College, H. 3. 3. (1322).
- H<sub>2</sub> = Trinity College, H. 1. 15 (1289).
- G = O'Clery's Leabhar Gabhála, Royal Irish Academy.  
(This ms. contains a few poems from the *Dind-  
senchas*.)
- S = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe Collection, D. II. 2.
- S<sub>2</sub> = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe Collection, B. II. 2.
- S<sub>3</sub> = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe Collection, B. III. 1.
- V = Royal Irish Academy, Reeves, 832.
- X = Royal Irish Academy, 23. N. 11. (This ms. contains  
two of the Tara poems.)
- Bd = Bodley Library, Rawlinson, B. 506.
- Ed = Advocates' Library in Edinburgh, Kilbride, xvi.

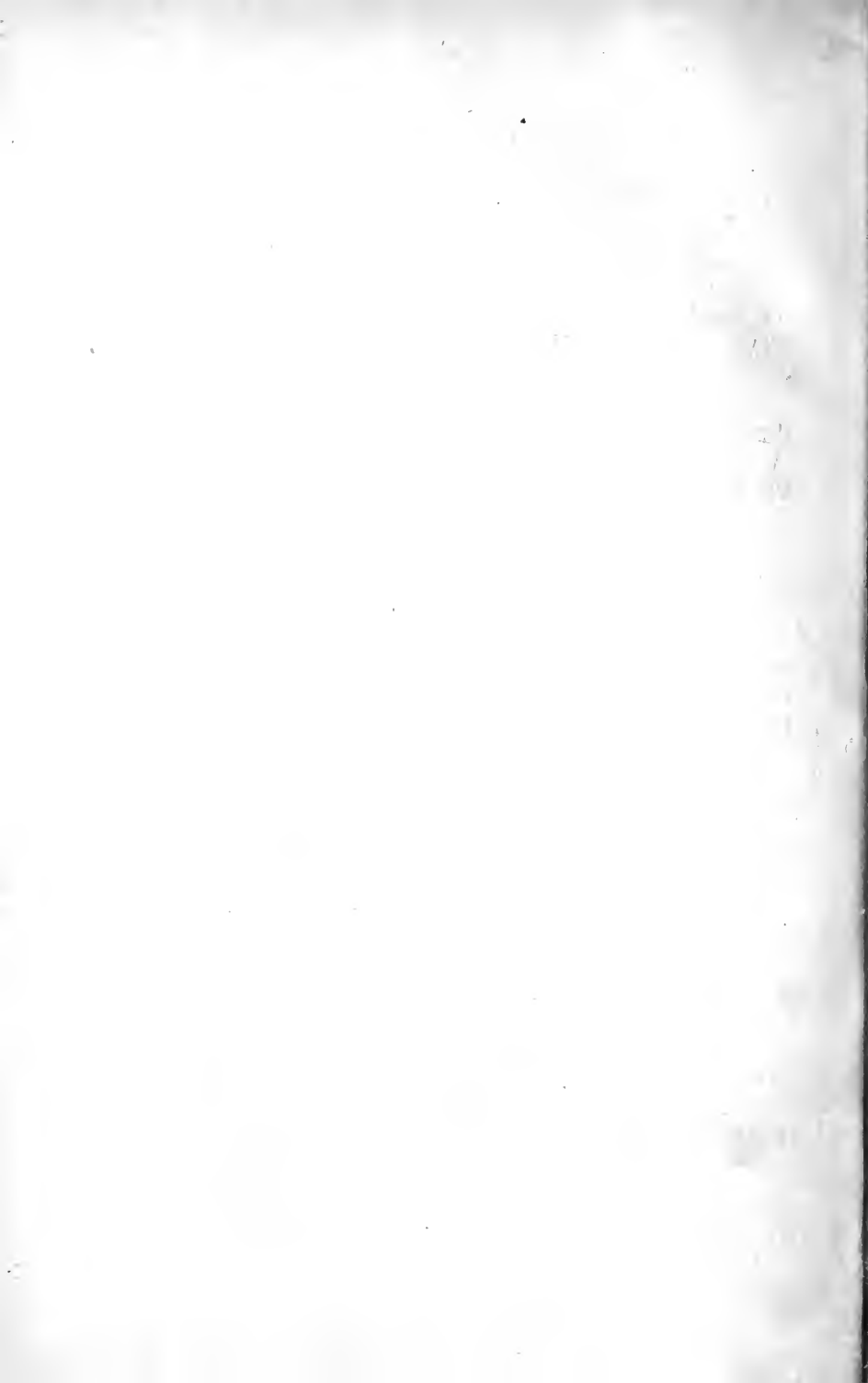
## ABBREVIATIONS EMPLOYED IN THE COMMENTARY.

- ACL = Archiv für Celtische Lexicographie, Meyer's Contributions.
- AU = Annals of Ulster, ed. Hennessy and McCarthy.
- BL = Atkinson's Glossary to the Ancient Laws of Ireland.
- CGG = War of the Gaedhill with the Gaill, ed. Todd.
- CML = Cath Muighe Leana, ed. O'Curry.
- Corm = Cormac's Glossary, ed. O'Donovan and Stokes.
- Ds = Dindsenchas.
- FB = Fled Bricrend, ed. Windisch, Irische Texte, i.
- FM = Annals of the Four Masters, ed. O'Donovan.
- Ir Gl = Irish Glosses, ed. Stokes (Irish Archæological Society).
- Ir Nenn = The Irish Version of Nennius, ed. Todd and Herbert.
- IT = Irische Texte, ed. Windisch and others.
- KZ = Kuhn's Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Sprachforschung.
- Laws = Ancient Laws of Ireland.
- LBr = Leabhar Breac.
- LHy = The Irish Liber Hymnorum, ed. Bernard and Atkinson.
- LnaC = Leabhar na g-Ceart, ed. O'Donovan.
- MC = O'Curry's Manners and Customs of the Ancient Irish.
- MMcr = Cath Maige Muerime, ed. Stokes, Revue Celtique, xiii., Glossary.
- MR = Battle of Magh Rath, ed. O'Donovan.
- McAlp = McAlpine's Gaelic Dictionary.



## ABBREVIATIONS EMPLOYED.

- O'C Lect = O'Curry's Lectures on the MS. Materials of Ancient Irish History.
- O'Dav = O'Davoren's Glossary, in Stokes' Three Irish Glossaries.
- O'D Suppl = O'Donovan's Supplement to O'Reilly's Dictionary.
- O'R = O'Reilly's Dictionary.
- Oss = Transactions of the Ossianic Society.
- Petrie = Petrie's Paper on Tara Hill, Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, 1839.
- PH = Passions and Homilies from the Leabhar Breac, ed. Atkinson (Glossary).
- RC = Revue Celtique.
- Serg Conc = Serlige Conchulainn, ed. Windisch, *Irische Texte*, i.
- SG = *Silva Gadelica*, ed. S. H. O'Grady.
- SnR = *Saltair na Rann*, ed. Stokes (*Anecdota Oxoniensia*).
- SM = *Senchus Mór* (Ancient Laws of Ireland).
- Tigern = *Annals of Tigernach*, ed. Stokes, *Revue Celtique*, xvi, xvii.
- Toch Beof = *Tochmarc Beofola*, ed. O'Looney, *Proceedings of Royal Irish Academy*, 1870.
- Top P = *Irish Topographical Poems*, ed. O'Donovan.
- TT = *Togail Troi*, ed. Stokes.
- V Trip = *Tripartite Life of S. Patrick*, ed. Stokes.
- Wi = *Windisch's Lexicon to Irische Texte*, i.
- Wi Gr = *Windisch's Kurzgefasste Irische Grammatik*.
- ZCP = *Zeitschrift für Celtische Philologie*.
- ZdA = *Zeitschrift für deutsches Alterthum*.



PART I.

—

TEMAIR AND ACHALL.

## TEMAIR I.

Temair Breg, cid ní diatá  
indisid a ollamna!  
cuin do dedail frisin mbruig?  
cuin robo Temair Temair?

IN ac Partolan na cath, 5  
nó 'n ac cét-gabáil Cesrach,  
in ac Nemed co neim n-úr  
nó ac Cigal garb gligar-glún?

IN ac Feraib Bolg na mbád? 10  
nó do líne Lupracán?  
sloindid cá gabáil díb-sin  
ó tá Temair ar Temraig.

A Dubán, a Fíndehaid féil,  
a Brain, a Chualad éim, 15  
a Thuain, bar cóiciur cain,  
cid ón cid diata Temair?

Dobí tan ba coll-chaille cháin  
i n-aimsir meic áin Ollcáin,  
noco roslecht in caill cais  
Líath mac Laigni lethan-glais. 20

Ó sin amach ba Druim Léith,  
a harbur ba harbur méith,  
noco toracht Cáin cen chrád,  
mac-sen Fiachach Cendfíndáin.

---

RBB<sub>2</sub> HSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>X VH<sub>2</sub> (see Commentary). 2. a] na BB<sub>2</sub>R. 3. dedail] deghail, &c., eodá. frisin] resin R. 4. ropo] do ba B; dobo R. 5. in ac] inad B. na] tug B<sub>2</sub>. 6. 'n ac] do BR. 7. in ac] mag B; no in ac, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. n-úr] ndúr S<sub>3</sub>V. 8. ac] inac, &c., B<sub>2</sub>SS<sub>3</sub>V. garb] RB; om. cat. 9. na mbád] &c., RBB<sub>2</sub>; narb fand, &c., cat. 10] no in ac tuathaib de dhánand, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V; no acc t. d. d. X; illeg. in H. 11] sloindig cia feaghan díbhsin B<sub>2</sub>. 12. óta] garaibh B<sub>2</sub>. 13. Duban]

## TEMAIR I.

Temair Breg, whence is it named ?  
 declare O sages !  
 when did the name part from the stead ?  
 when did Temair become Temair ?

Was it under Partholan of the battles ? 5  
 or at the first conquest by Cesair ?  
 or under Nemed of the stark valour ?  
 or under Cigal of the knocking knees ?

Was it under the Firbolgs of the boats ?  
 or from the line of the Lupracans ? 10  
 tell which conquest of these it was  
 from which the name Temair was set on Temair ?

O Duban, O generous Findchad,  
 O Bran, O quick Cualad,  
 O Tuain, ye devout five ! 15  
 what is the cause whence Temair is named ?

There was a time when it was a pleasant hazel-wood  
 in the days of the noble son of Ollean,  
 until the tangled wood was cut down  
 by Liath son of Laigne Lethan-glas. 20

Thenceforward it was called Druim Leith—  
 its corn was rich corn—  
 until there came Cain free from sorrow,  
 the son of Fiachu Cendfindan.

---

thuan B<sub>2</sub>. 14. *Chualad éim*] cualadéin R; cuaraidh éim S<sub>2</sub>. 15. *Thuain*] duban R; tuban B; dubain S<sub>2</sub>; findan B<sub>2</sub>. *bar*] na BB<sub>2</sub>R S<sub>2</sub>; nar S; *illeg. in H. cóiciur*] cóig B. 16. *ón*] amh B<sub>2</sub>. 17 *dobí*] robai B<sub>2</sub>. *coll*] call, &c., RBB<sub>2</sub>S. 18. *Olleain*] olleaim B. 19. *caill*] chaill B<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. *cais*] S<sub>3</sub>V; cas, &c., *cæt*. 20. *Laigni*] Lugna, &c., HSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>XV. *lethan*] leagan B<sub>2</sub>. *glais*] RSS<sub>3</sub>; glas *cæt*. 21. *druim*] caill R. 24. *sen*] siden H S<sub>3</sub>VX. *Fiachach*] Fiacha RBB<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>.

Ó sin amach ba Druim Cáin 25  
 in tulach a téigdís máir,  
 noco toracht Crofind chain,  
 ingen Alloid oll-bladaig.

Cathir Chrofind, nírbó chamm,  
 a hainm ac Túaith Dé Danann, 30  
 co toracht Tea, nar chlé,  
 ben Erimóin co n-ard-gné.

Roclaitea clad imma tech  
 ac Tea móir ingen Lugdech ;  
 roadnacht iar múr amuig, 35  
 conad uaithi atá Temair.

Forad na ríg ba hainm di,  
 rígrad mac Miled inti ;  
 cóic anmand uirri iarsin,  
 ó tá Fordruim co Temair. 40

Is mise Fintan fili,  
 nirsam éene óen-lindi ;  
 is and romtócbad co mblaid  
 ar in fót-brug os Temair.

---

27. *noco toracht*] co toracht and SS<sub>2</sub>. *Crofind*] croaind RB. 28. *oll-bladaig*] ollgothaig, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>. 29. *Crofind*] Croaind RSS<sub>2</sub>. 30. *Túaith Dé Danann*] tuaith dé dano R; tuath. d. d., &c., BSS<sub>2</sub>VX; tuatha de donann S<sub>3</sub>; *illeg. in H.* 31. *co*] gor B. 33. *ro claita*] ro clóitea R; ro claidte, &c., S<sub>3</sub>V; ro claitte X. 34. *Tea móir*] Tea mhoir S<sub>2</sub>; Témoir, &c.,

Thenceforward it was called Druim Cain, 25  
 the hill whither chieftains used to go,  
 until Crofhind the chaste came,  
 the daughter of all-famous Allod.

Cathair Crofhind ('twas not amiss)  
 was its name under the Tuatha De Danand, 30  
 till there came Tea, never unjust,  
 the wife of Erimon lofty of mien.

Round her house was built a rampart  
 by Tea daughter of Lugaíd ;  
 she was buried beyond the wall without, 35  
 so that from her is Temair named.

The Seat of the Kings was its name :  
 the kingly line of the Milesians reigned in it :  
 five names accordingly were given it  
 from the time when it was Fordruim till it was Temair. 40

I am Fintan the poet,  
 I am a salmon not of one stream ;  
 it is there I was exalted with fame,  
 on the sod-built stead, even Temair.

RBSS<sub>3</sub> ; teaa B<sub>2</sub>

36. *conad*] gurub B<sub>2</sub>.

anmanda, &c., B<sub>2</sub>SV.

co] ar S<sub>2</sub> ; do X.

co *mblaid*] iarsin, &c., RBB<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> ; *illeg.* in H.

35. *iar*] tar R.

39. *anmand*] a n-anmanna S<sub>2</sub> ; anmandæ S<sub>3</sub> ;  
 40. *ótá*] a do BB<sub>2</sub>R.

42. *én*] en RBB<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V.

*múr*] núir S<sub>2</sub> ; *om.* B<sub>2</sub>.

*Fordruim*] Temair S<sub>2</sub>.

43. *rom*] ro RBS<sub>2</sub>.

## TEMAIR II.

Ní cheil maissi dona mnáib  
 Temair cen taissi ar tócbáil ;  
 fúair ingen Lugdach 'n a láim,  
 tul-mag bad liach do lot-báig.

Ellom rogaíd ben Géde 5  
 for a céle, rochúala,  
 dindgna dath-glan, dréim n-áine,  
 ba hathlam áine im úaga.

Árus ba dún ba dindgna,  
 ba cádu, múr cen mannur, 10  
 forsmbiad lecht Tea iar tuinnem,  
 combad fuilled fria hallud.

Robói ic Erimón umal  
 ben i ngle-medón gemel;  
 rue uad cach roga romer ; 15  
 atnóimed cech ní atbered.

Brega Tea, treb tuilltech,  
 rocluinter úair ba haird-ben,  
 fert fosfail in mór mergech,  
 in róm relgech ná rairged. 20

Ingen Foraind co lín argg,  
 Tephi rolaind, lúaded leirg,  
 rochum cathraig, croda in chuird,  
 dia luirg rostorna is dia deilg.

---

LR B HSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>VH<sub>2</sub>. 1. *ni cheil*] L; dobeir *cæt.* *dona*] do L.  
 3. '*n a láim*] nalláim H. 4. *bad*] ba HSS<sub>2</sub>. -*báig*] -báidh, &c., RBH. ;  
 -badhadh S<sub>2</sub>. 5. *gáid*] gaed *with* guid *superscr.* B; ghuidh SS<sub>2</sub>. 6. *ro*]  
 do LHS. 7. *dréim*] delm S. *ndáine*] ndáeine R. 8. *ba*] bad RB.  
*im uaga*] &c., LRB; a mbuadha S; mbuadha, &c., HS<sub>2</sub>. 9. *ba . . . ba*] bad  
 . . . bad B; budh . . . budh S. 10. *ba*] bad B. *cen*] con R. 11. *biad*]  
 bia H; bóí S<sub>2</sub>. *Tea*] Aeda L. *iar*] cen L. *tuinnem*] duinnim H.  
 12. *fuilled*] L; tuilled, &c., *cæt.* *fria*] ria L; dia *cæt.* *h-allud*] thallud S; a



## TEMAIR II.

Temair free from feebleness hides not  
the glory due to women for its building ;  
the daughter of Lugaid obtained in her possession  
an open plain that it were pity to pillage.

The wife of Gede begged a dower 5  
from her husband, as I have heard,  
the clear-hued fortress, stately ascent ;  
keen was the game for graves.

The abode was a keep, was a fortress, 10  
was a pride, a rampart free from ravage,  
whereon was to be the grave of Tea after death,  
so that it should be an increase to her fame.

Erimon the lowly had 15  
a wife in the very midst of imprisonment ;  
she got from him all her eager desires ;  
he granted everything she spoke of.

Brega Tea, a teeming home,  
is famed because Tea was a noble dame ;  
the funeral mound under which is the great one of the standards,  
the burying ground that was not rifled. 20

The daughter of Pharaoh, with tale of warriors,  
Tephi the bright, who used to cross the hill-slope,  
framed a stronghold (hardy the labourer !)  
with her staff and with her brooch she traced it.

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h-allud H. 13. *ro bóí*] L: báí RB; bóí dano, &c., *cæt.* 14. *i ngle-*]  
i nglér B; ic gler- L. 17. *Brega*] Bregdha, SS<sub>2</sub>. *Tea*] Temair, &c.,  
SS<sub>2</sub>. *tuilltech*] tuillmech H. 18. *ro*] do SS<sub>2</sub>; de H. *haird-ben*]  
B; hairdber R; haird-treb &c., HSS<sub>2</sub>. 19.] *sic* S<sub>2</sub>; *fir i fail*  
in mór merge L; fert fosfuil in mór mergech, &c., SH; fert f<sup>s</sup>fail in mór  
mergech RB. 20. *in*] SH; ní L RB S<sub>2</sub>. *róim*] roim SS<sub>2</sub>. *relgech*]  
reilge L; railgech S<sub>2</sub>. 22. *luaded*] L BR; luaidhes, &c., *cæt.*

Dorat ainm dia cathraig cáim 25  
 in ben co n-áb rathmair rí; ;  
 Múr Tephí fristoirged dáil,  
 asnoirged cen gráin cech ngním.

Ní clethe in rún ría ráda, 30  
 múr thair Tephí, rochúala;  
 fúisain sund, cen dúal dígna,  
 cumsat mór rígna rúama.

Fat lethet tige Tephí,  
 cen trethi midit súthi, 35  
 sesca traiged cen tláthi,  
 confégsat fáthi is drúthi.

Atchúala i n-Espáin uilig  
 ingin lesc-báin láech-buillig,  
 cin ó Bachtir mac Buírig;  
 dosfuc Camsón cáem-chuingid. 40

Tephí a hainm ó cech gérad;  
 mairg forsmélad a múrad!  
 ráth sescat traiged tólach  
 leo dorónad dia rúnad.

Nístuc rí Bregoin cen brón, 45  
 ciarbo debaid la Camsón,  
 combeth a haisec dia hón,  
 cid mór cid mín cid marb-són.

---

25. *dia cathraig* da cathir I.; don cathraig H. *cáim*] chám L. 26. *áb*] *obliterated in L.* *rathmair*] rathmar L. 27. *fristoirged*] fraistoirge B;  
 fristoirgi R. *dáil*] aig S<sub>2</sub>. 28. *asnoirged*] astoirgeth R; astraoirgead B.  
*cen*] L; cach, &c., *cæt*. 29. *clethi*] cleith S<sub>2</sub>. *in rún*] amrún SS<sub>2</sub>; in ūr B.  
*ria*] ra BR. 30. *tair*] dar BR. *ro*] do HSS<sub>2</sub>. 31. *fúí sain*] L; foesain RB;  
 foesin H; fæsair SS<sub>2</sub>. *sund*] sunna L. *cen*] cē H; cā R; cā S<sub>2</sub>.  
*dúal*] om. L; duil S<sub>2</sub>. *dígna*] dingna RHS<sub>2</sub>; ndingna S. 32. *cumsat*] *comsat* R; *gursat*? S<sub>2</sub>. *mór rígna*] morigna L. *ruama*] ruamna L.  
 33. *tige*] om. L. 34. *trethi*] creithi R. *midit*] mided, &c., RB S.  
 36. *fegsat*] fedad S; feghat S<sub>2</sub>. 37. *uilig*] uille S<sub>2</sub>. 38. *ingin*] om. L;  
 ingen RH. *lesc-*] losc- R. *buillig*] dhuillidh S<sub>2</sub>. 39. *cin*] cinn L;

She gave a name to her fair stronghold, 25  
 the king's wife gracious and lovely :  
 the Rampart of Tephi, who would affront an army,  
 who would dare without dread any deed.

Not hidden is the secret place that it should not be spoken of,  
 the Rampart of Tephi in the east, as I have heard ; 80  
 in such wise at that place with no unworthy tradition  
 did many queens build their sepulchres.

The length and breadth of the House of Tephi  
 not ignorantly the learned measure—  
 sixty feet in full ; 85  
 diviners and druids beheld it.

I have heard in many-cornered Spain  
 of a maiden fair and indolent, heroic in fight,  
 offspring of Bachtir son of Buirech ;  
 Camson, gentle champion, bore her away. 40

Tephi was her name, from every warrior ;  
 ill-luck to him whom her entombment should wear out !  
 a rath of sixty feet, full measure,  
 was built by them for her concealment.

The king of Bregon free from sorrow did not bear her away, 45  
 though there was strife between him and Camson,  
 that she might be restored to her . . . .  
 were it for better or for worse, or were she dead.

cian S<sub>2</sub>. 40. *Camson*] caanson? L; canton BS; cannton HS<sub>2</sub>; anton R.  
*cuingid*] chuinnid L; cuindig B. 41. *a h-*] a LRB. *ó*] LRB; os, *cæt*.  
*gerad*] ngerad LH; deiridh S<sub>2</sub>. 42. *forsmelad*] forsm erad S; forsm erad, H;  
 forsmbeired S<sub>2</sub>. 43. *ráth*] lá S; la S<sub>2</sub>; om. H. *tolach*] tóladh, &c.,  
 SS<sub>2</sub>; cen tolad H. 44. *leo*] L; le, &c., *cæt*. *doronad*] donad B.  
*ruinad*] runar HSS<sub>2</sub>; rumar VS<sub>3</sub>. 45. *ri*] rig, &c., LS<sub>2</sub>. 46. *debuid*] teбайд  
 R; debaig B; meab H; thobind S<sub>2</sub>. *Camson*] L; cacton B; cantón R;  
 cannton H; candton SS<sub>2</sub>. 48.] *sic* L; ó rig na mBretan mbladhóm, &c.,  
 HSS<sub>2</sub>; ó rig na mB. mbadhron, &c., BR.

Erlam Camsóin, ní clethe,  
Etherún, ba herchrede, 50  
is slúag na nglas-dere nglethe  
úad fri tassec trén-Tephe.

Ec trúag Tephe tánic túaid,  
nír gním clethe fri hóen-úair,  
Camsón ro léic luing cen lúraig 55  
lé dar tuind sáili sóeb-úair.

Roscart barr Bretan ó'n brúch,  
ar ba hetal Etherún,  
co marblaig fria mess 'sin múr  
tess forstarblaig Tephi-rún. 60

Is fon samla-sin sunna  
gníth co calma a cét-chuma  
Temrach, cen táidlius trumma,  
ar áibnius, ar étrumma.

Temair cech n-ard cech n-irgna 65  
forsmbít sosta so-dindgna ;  
Temair cech mbennach mbirda,  
acht mad Emain airirgna.

Temair tuathi ocus tigi  
cen luathi cen læch-miri, 70  
mathair anai cech fini,  
co nosbrathaig bæth-bini.

49-52] *after* 56 *all but* L. 49. *Erlam*] L; coimdiu, &c., *cæt.* *Camsóin*] camson L; catoín B; canthoin R; cannton H; cantoin S; canntoin S<sub>2</sub>. *clethe*] clithi BR. 50. *erchrede*] *erchrede* L; *erceithi* R; *irceleith* H; *inclethe* S; *imereithe* S<sub>2</sub>. 51. *is*] i LS<sub>2</sub>; co S. 52. *fri*] L; in BRS<sub>2</sub>; am S; um H. 54. *nír*] ní L. *fri*] ri L; ra RB; re *cæt.* 55. *Camson*] L; cacton B; canton RS; cannton HS<sub>2</sub>. *cen*] *ger* R. *lúraig*] *lúaid*, &c., RS<sub>2</sub>. 56. *lé*] L; *om. cæt.* *dar*] for HSS<sub>2</sub>. *tuind*] *druim* S<sub>2</sub>; in tuinn R. *sáili*] *sáile* L; *ansaile* S; *intsáile*, &c., HS<sub>2</sub>. *sébuair*] RB *sébruade* L; *tserbruaid*, &c., *cæt.* 57. *roscart*] *rosgart* B; *rosgar* S<sub>2</sub>. *barr*] bar, LB; bár R. *brúch*] *múr* SS<sub>2</sub>. 58. *bá*] *bad* BR. *etal*] *bis* B. 59. *marblaig*] LH; *marblaidh*, &c., *cæt.* *fria*] L; *fri cæt.* *'sin*] si

The tutelar of Camson, not hidden,  
 Etherun (he was transitory), 50  
 and the host of the clear grey eyes  
 were sent by him as a pledge for the restitution of mighty Tephí.

The sad death of Tephí who came to the north,  
 was a deed not concealed for a moment ;  
 Camson launched a vessel without payment 55  
 with her over the surface of the cold and treacherous sea.

The chief of Britain sent them from the shore,  
 (for Etherun was pure ;)  
 with the lifeless body to do it honour in the rampart  
 in the south, on which settled the name Tephírun. 60

It was after this likeness in this place  
 was made boldly the first frame  
 of Temair, that has no match nor mate  
 for beauty and for gaiety.

'Temair' is the name of every lofty and conspicuous spot 65  
 whereon are dwellings and strong keeps ;  
 'Temair' is the name of every peaked and pointed hill  
 except the far-seen Emain.

Temair of the cantred, and of the house,  
 without hurry, without frenzy of heroes, 70  
 was mother of the wealth of every tribe  
 till a foolish crime destroyed her.

L; don H. 60. *fors*] L; i RB; a *cæt.* *tarblaig*] tarblaid R; tarblaidh S.  
*rún*] LB; r. R; *múr, &c., cæt.* 61. *fon*] fo L; ón SS<sub>2</sub>. *samla*]  
 tsamla, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>. *-sin*] sain L. 62. *gníth*] L; gni (?) H; gníd, &c., *cæt.*  
 63. *Temrach*] LH; Temra B; Temraid R; Temair, &c., *cæt.* *taidlius*]  
 taiblius, &c., HS. *trumna*] cuma S. 65. *n-ard*] R; aird L; ard *cæt.*  
*n-irgna*] nirgnæ R; irgna, &c., *cæt.* 66. *mbít*] mbí S; mbóí S<sub>2</sub>; mid B.  
*so-*] *sær-* SS<sub>2</sub>. *dindgna*] irgnæ R. 67. *mbennach*] ben nā L; bendach BS<sub>2</sub> ;  
 bennach R; mennach S. *mbirda*] birda LB; birrgha RS<sub>2</sub>; mirgha S. 68. *mad*]  
*om.* L; ma S<sub>2</sub>. *airirgna*] irirgna, H; fhír irgna, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>; oiridga R ;  
 forirgna LB. 69-72] *in L only.*

Ba targa triath ocus tor,  
 ba hadba niath, níth co neim ;  
 Temair cen taissi cen tráig  
 a maissi do mnáib ní cheil. D.

75

73. *targa*] tarba SS<sub>2</sub>.  
 HSS<sub>2</sub>:

74. *ba adba*] LR ; ba badba B ; robadba, &c.,  
 niath] LH ; niad, &c., RBS ; nid S<sub>2</sub>.

*co*] im BR.

It was a shield of lords and chiefs  
 it was a home of heroes, valiant in fray,  
 Temair free from feebleness and faintness 75  
 hides not its glory from womankind.

75. *cen trdig*] gatoigh S<sub>2</sub>.  
*ni cheil*] L; dobeir cat.

76. *a*] om. HS. *do*] for L; dona HSS<sub>2</sub>.

## TEMAIR III.

Temair toga na tulach,  
foatá Ériu inradach,  
ard-chathir Cormaic meic Airt,  
meic Chuind chét-chathaig comnairt.

Cormac, ba cundail a maith ; 5  
ba súi, ba file, ba flaith ;  
ba fír-brethem fer Féne,  
ba cara, ba cocéle.

Cormac, rochlái cóicait cath,  
rosílaig Saltair Temrach ; 10  
isin tSaltair-sin atá  
a n-as dech sund senchusa.

Is í in tSaltair-sin adbeir  
secht n-aird-ríg hÉrend inbir,  
cóic rí na cóiced dosgní, 15  
rí hÉrend is a hairrí.

Is inde atá do cech leith  
ina ndlig cech rí cóicid ;  
ina ndlig rí Temrach thair  
do rí g cech cóicid cheólmair. 20

Coimgned, comamserad cáich,  
cech rí g diaraile do ráith ;  
crícha cech cóicid fo chrúaich  
ótá traiged co trom-thúaith.

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RBYHGSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>VH<sub>2</sub>. (The first 33 stanzas are nearly illegible in Y.) 2. foatá] H ; fottá G ; fotá S ; fota RBS<sub>2</sub>. 6. súi] flaith SS<sub>2</sub>. ba flaith] firdaith S ; firghaith S<sub>2</sub>. 10. rosílaig] R ; ro síl, &c. SG ; ro síla a S<sub>2</sub> ; do silad H ; ilaid B. 13. í in] sin BR. 14. inbir] inḃ R ; indbir H ; indḃ S<sub>2</sub> ; inber S. 15. dosgní] RB ; fosgní, &c., HGSS<sub>2</sub>. 16. hairrí] herri HG ; hurri S ;



## TEMAIR III.

Temair noblest of hills,  
under which is Erin of the forays,  
the lofty city of Cormac son of Art,  
son of mighty Conn of the hundred fights.

Cormac, constant was his prosperity, 5  
he was sage, he was poet, he was prince ;  
he was a true judge of the men of Fene.  
he was a friend, he was a comrade.

Cormac, who gained fifty fights,  
disseminated the Psalter of Temair ; 10  
in this Psalter there is  
all the best we have of history.

It is this Psalter that tells of  
seven warlike high kings of Erin ;  
five kings of the provinces it makes, 15  
the king of Erin and her viceroy.

In it is set down on every hand  
what is the right of every king of a province,  
what is the right of the king of Temair eastward  
from the king of every songful province ; 20

The correlation, the synchronising of every man,  
of each king one with another together ;  
the limits of every province marked by a stone-rick,  
from the foot to the full barony.

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huiridhi S<sub>2</sub> ; hairdri BR. 17. *do*] de H ; dia R ; da G. *leith*] breith R.  
18. *ina ndlig ceoh rí*] a ndí righ gach S<sub>2</sub>. 19. *ina ndlig*] a ndí S<sub>2</sub>.  
21. *coingned*] coingne, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>HG. *comamserad*] comamserai, &c., HG ;  
comaimsir S<sub>2</sub>. 22. *do*] da HS ; dia S<sub>2</sub>. 23. *crícha*] críoch  
HG ; críchad B. *fo chruaich*] ó cruaiç RB ; fo cruaiç, &c., HS<sub>2</sub>.

Tricha ar thrichtaib-cét fosgeib 25  
do thrichtaib-cét cech cóicid ;  
in cech cóiciud díb atá  
secht príim-fíhít príim-dingna.

Rosfítir Cormac, ba rí ;  
ro lá cúairt hÉrend fo thrí ; 30  
tuc giall cecha múir amuig,  
co rostaiselb i Temraig.

Duma na nGiall, glaine glac,  
do na giallaib thuc Cormac ;  
do Chormac tarfás 'n-a tig 35  
cech decair atá i Temraig.

Rostarfás d' Fergus mar tá  
áit i fuil Cros Fergussa ;  
Fán na Carpat concerta  
etorro is na Cláen-Ferta. 40

Cláen-Ferta a ngaeltís aindre,  
Cláen-Ferta na cláen-chaingne,  
fri Ráith Grainde aniar anís,  
atáit cen erchra a n-óendís.

O Ráith Grainde sair 'sin glinn 45  
atá Sescend Temrach tind ;  
atá fri Sescend anair  
Ráth Nessa, Ráth Chonchobair.

Corus Cind Chonchulainn chrúaid  
ó Ráith Chonchobair sair-thúaid ; 50  
tomus a Scéith fo a Chobrad  
is ingnad is imadbul.

25. *trichtaib*] trichait, &c., RBS (see Commentary). *fosgeib*] RB; nosgeib  
*cæt.* 26. *coicid*] coigedh S; coiċ, &c., RHG. 29. *bá*] S<sub>3</sub>V; fo RB; fa *cæt.*  
31. *tuc*] co *tuc* S<sub>2</sub>. *cecha*] gach BS<sub>2</sub>. *múir*] amuir BS; muir *cæt.*  
32. *Temraig*] Temoir, &c., RG. 33-36] *om.* B. 33. *gloine*] gli R.  
*glac*] nglac RH. 35. *tig*] thigh S<sub>2</sub>. 37-52] *after* 128 RB.  
*rostarfás*] tarfás RB; rotarfás SS<sub>2</sub>. *mar tá*] mur ta H; a marta S<sub>2</sub>;  
baile i tá RB. 38. *dít i fuil cros*] hi fail croisi R. 39. *concerta*]  
*concerca*, &c., RB; ganċta S<sub>2</sub>. 40. *is na*] sa Y; saun H.

Baronies thirty in number it finds 25  
 in the baronies of each province ;  
 in each province of them there are  
 seven noble score of chief fortresses.

Cormac knew the number being king ;  
 he made the circuit of Erin thrice ; 30  
 he brought away a hostage for every walled town,  
 and showed them in Temair.

Duma na Giall (purity of palms),  
 is called from the hostages Cormac brought ;  
 to Cormac was revealed in their house 35  
 every marvel that is in Temair.

There was revealed to Fergus, as it is,  
 the place in which is Fergus' Cross ;  
 the Slope of the Chariots marks the limits  
 between it and the Crooked Trenches. 40

The Crooked Trenches where they slew the maidens,  
 The Crooked Trenches of the crooked dealings  
 west from Rath Grainde below,  
 they remain free from decay both of them.

Eastward from Rath Grainde in the glen 45  
 is the Marsh of strong Temair ;  
 east of the Marsh there are  
 Rath Nessa and Rath Conchobair.

The Measure of the Head of grim Cuchullin  
 lies north-east from Rath Conchobair ; 50  
 the dimension of his Shield under its Boss  
 is wonderful and huge.

41. *a n-gaeltis*] *a cældais* Y ; in *gældis* (*with .i. inguintis superscr.*) G ; *inglæ dais* R ; *aceltis* S<sub>2</sub>.      42. *Cláen-Ferta*] *caiduta* (?) Y ; *andentai* S ; *andentais* S<sub>2</sub>.  
 43. *fri*] RB ó *cæt*.      *anis*] *andis* H ; *annis* G.      44. *atdid*] *ēt* YS.  
*a n-oendís*] *n-ænmis* RB ; *n-ainbis* (*with vel aindis superscr.*) Y ; *nanfhis* S<sub>2</sub>.  
 47. *atá fri*] *ēt* S.      48. *Nessa*] *esa* R ; *r. esa* B.      49. *corus*] *cross* S<sub>2</sub>.  
 50. *sair*] *sær* BYS.      51. *fo a*] *fo* HYSS<sub>2</sub>.      52. *is* (1)] *as* SS<sub>2</sub>G.  
*is* (2)] 's *as* YGSS<sub>2</sub>.

Lige Mail ocus Midna  
i Temraig iar n-a tigba ;  
de atá a lige 's a lecht, 55  
dáig in chind rochommáidset.

Immráidem fós Long na Láech  
frisanabar Barc Ban mbáeth ;  
Tech na Fían, nirbo long lac,  
co cethri doirsib deac. 60

Duma na mBan iar n-a mbrath  
forsin innell uachtarach ;  
Dall is Dorcha fris andes,  
rocromtha fri comaídes.

Dall tes-thiar Dorcha dogra ; 65  
ba díb Duma Dall-Bodra ;  
romarb cách díb araile  
ac cosnam a n-almisaine.

Doluid in t-abac, trúag dó,  
do etargaire etorro, 70  
co romarbsat in abacc  
fo a cossaib iar crín-amarc.

Ó lecht ind abaic-sin star  
Mael, Bloc, Bluicne, borb a cíall,  
forru atáit na tri clocha 75  
dusfarlaice Mál mór-Macha.

Múr clethe na trí cocur  
etir luing is láech-thopur ;  
Lia na Fían fri slige anair  
ar inchaib Rátha Senaid. 80

53-56] om. RB. 54. *iar*] ar YS<sub>2</sub>. *tigba*] tidhbhai; H; tighba S; tingba S<sub>2</sub>; ttioghba G. 55. *de*] is de, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub>. 56. *daig*] ar daigh S<sub>2</sub>.  
*commáidset*] chomaighset S. 57. *immráidem*] imraidim HSS<sub>2</sub>. 59. *fián*] RB;  
læch *cæt.* *nirbo*] ni B; bro R. 60. *co*] mo RB. *doirsib*] doirrsé R. *deac*] xx. B.  
62. *forsin*] forand H; foran YG; forsinn S; for S<sub>2</sub>; ara RB. *innell*] ochair RB.  
64. *ro*] ri RB; re S<sub>2</sub>. *comaídes*] comeceas R; comaices B; comaighthes, &c.,  
GS; comuighchius H; coimidhches S<sub>2</sub>; comaídeas (?) Y. 65. *tes*] tair, &c.,  
YSS<sub>2</sub>. *thiar*] tiar *codá.* 66. *ba díb*] ota S<sub>2</sub>; fota, &c., RB. *duma*] duba YS:

The Grave of Mal and Midna  
is in Temair since their slaying:  
thence is their grave and their sepulchre,  
on account of the head they boasted. 55

Let us consider too the Hall of the Heroes  
which is called the Palace of Vain Women;  
the House of the Warriors, it was no mean hall,  
with fourteen doors. 60

The Mound of the Women after their betrayal  
was hard by the upper structure;  
south of it are Dall and Dorcha,  
they were bowed down both alike.

Dall is south-west of sad Dorcha,  
from them was called Duma Dall-Bodra;  
each of them killed the other  
in fighting over their alms. 65

The dwarf came, to his sorrow,  
to interpose between them,  
so they killed the dwarf  
under their feet, through their dimness of sight. 70

Westward from the Grave of this dwarf  
are Mael, Bloc, and Bluicne—foolish their wisdom!  
over them are the three stones  
that the Prince of great Macha fung. 75

The secret Rampart of the three Whispers  
is between the Hall and the Heroes' Well;  
the Stone of the Warriors is east of the road,  
over against the Rath of the Synod. 80

*dall bodra*] dall bodrai H; indall brogadh S<sub>2</sub>. 67. *cach dib*] cechtar, &c., YHG; cechtar de, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>. 68. *ac*] hi, &c., RYHSS<sub>2</sub>. *a n-almaine*] na h-almaine S; andalamsaine S<sub>2</sub>; nanalmoine Y. 70. *etargaire*] etorgair H; etargain, &c., RB. 72. *fo a cossaib*] H; fo ccossaib G; fo cossaib *cæt.* *iar crin*] RB; cer clæn, &c., *cæt.* 73. *ind*] R in *oran cæt.* 75. *forru atait*] forthai hitait, &c., HY. *clocha*] clacha RSS<sub>2</sub>. 76. *da*] ro S<sub>2</sub>. 79. *slige*] lige, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub> *anair*] mair H. 80. *ar*] for YSS<sub>2</sub>. *Senaid*] ant senaigh, &c., GS.

Ráth na Senad, ségda búaid,  
fri Fál na Temrach atúaid ;  
ó'n ráith sair i táeb ind Líac  
in tech as' terna Beníat.

Senad Pátraic 'con ráith ráin, 85  
Senad Brenaind is Ruadáin,  
Senad Adamnáin iarsin,  
ac escaine Irgalaig.

Fri Ráith Ríg anís, ní gó,  
Lecht Con, Lecht Cethen, Cnoc Bó, 90  
atá frisín ráith anair  
Lecht Maine meic Munremair.

Maraid fri Ráith Ríg andes  
Ráth Loegairi is a Les,  
is a Lecht for lár a lis, 95  
firén Fiadat rodforbris.

Fégaid Tech Mairise mend,  
ar primit áille hÉrend,  
ard aniar irard atúaid,  
ísel úad sair, ba sáer-búaid. 100

Is ann rosuidiged-se  
in tech ar brú Nemnaige ;  
'mon tech-sin tar Mide amach  
rosílta tige Temrach.

Temair diatá Temair Breg, 105  
Múr Tea mná meic Miled,  
Nemnach úad sair, sruth fo glenn,  
fors' tart Cormac cét-muilenn.

81. *na Senad*] Senaid, &c., RBHS. *ségda*] segead RB ; soig S. *búaid*] gach buaid, &c., BS ; cach mbuaid, &c., RH. 82. *na*] om. B. 83. *ón raith*] ó raith Y ; uaidi, &c., RB. *ind*] na YSS<sub>2</sub>G. 84. *as' terna*] atero, &c., RB ; asatterna G. 85. *'con*] on H. 89. *fri*] RB ; ó *cæt.* *ríg*] na rígh H. *anís*] RS<sub>2</sub> (*in margin*) ; nais B ; sair siss S ; sair, &c., YGHS<sub>2</sub>. *ní*] nocho, &c., YG. 90. *Cethen*] ceithlen G. 91.] ana . . . ther na ratha tair Y (?) ; anairter na ratha sair S ; a oirter na rath soir S<sub>2</sub>. *atá*] hita H. 92. *lecht*] ata lecht YSS<sub>2</sub>. *Maine*] om. S. 95. *a*] in R. 96. *firén fiadat*] firen fiadhait H ; firen fiadha

The Rath of the Synods, noble excellence,  
lies north of the Precinct of Temair ;  
eastward from the Rath beside the Stone  
is the house whence Beniat escaped.

The Synod of Patrick was at the noble Rath, 85  
The Synod of Brendan and of Ruadan,  
The Synod of Adamnan thereafter,  
assembled to curse Irgalach.

Below from the Rath of the Kings (it is not false)  
are the Grave of Cu, the Grave of Cethen, the hill of the Ox ; 90  
east of the Rath is  
the grave of Maine son of Munremar.

There remains south of the Rath of the King  
the Rath of Loegaire and his Keep  
and his Grave on the floor of his Keep; 95  
the righteous one of the Lord overcame him.

Behold the noble House of Mairise  
chief for beauty in Erin ;  
it is high to the west, very high to the north,  
level eastward of it,—it was a triumph of the mason.

It is there was situated 10  
the house, on the margin of Nemnach ;  
about this house away across Meath  
were scattered the houses of Temair.

Temair, whence Temair Breg is named, 105  
Rampart of Tea wife of the son of Miled,  
Nemnach is east of it, a stream through the glen  
on which Cormac set the first mill.

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SG ; fiadadaid fiadad B ; fiadadad fiadadad R ; fidren (?) . . . Y ; fiadhat fiadhat] S<sub>2</sub>.  
rod-] S ; ros- S<sub>2</sub> ; ro- caet. 97. mend] mbenn HS<sub>2</sub> ; nambenn S. 98. ar  
primit] ar primait RB ; i priomait G ; primaiti, &c., HSS<sub>2</sub>. aille] aille G ; aile  
RBH ; uile, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>. 99. atuid] tuaid B ; antuid H. 100. uad] uaidh HG ;  
uait RB. ba] co S. saer-] sain-RB. 101. ro] fri (?) Y. 102. intech]  
a thuaid, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub> ; thuaid G. ar] for YGSS<sub>2</sub>. 103. 'mon] om. R. tar]  
ar YS ; for S<sub>2</sub>. 104. rosilla] doronta SS<sub>2</sub>. 105. diata] diadha R. 106. Tea]  
téad R ; tead(?) B. meic] mac B. 107.] in N. uadha soir fo glenn S<sub>2</sub>.

- Ciarnait cumal Cormaic cóir  
 mór cét nobiathad a bróin; 110  
 deich méich lé cech láí do bleith,  
 nírb opair duine denmeich.
- Rostarraig aicce in rí rán  
 i n-a tig a hoenurán;  
 co rostoircestar fo ehleith; 115  
 iarsin forémid robleith.
- Iarsin rosairchis úa Cuind,  
 tue saer muilinn tar mór-thuind;  
 cét-muilenn Cormaic meic Airt  
 robo chobair do Chiarnait. 120
- Caprach Cormaic i Ráith Ríg;  
 ó Ráith Ríg sair, is é a fír,  
 atá in topur tuirme cland,  
 frisnapar na tri hanmand.
- Liaig Dáil Duib Duirb, Túath Linne, 125  
 ocus Tipra Bó Finne,  
 tri hanmand dia sloind amach,  
 do sílad topuir Temrach.
- Topur aile, adbal tres,  
 a Temraig siles siardes; 130  
 Láeg a ainm, cen co dín bú;  
 Cuchtair Cormaic for a brú.
- Bruindid a Temraig atúaid  
 Adlaic Diadlaic in tslúaig,  
 dá thopur fo dechair de 135  
 síis co Carn na Macraide.

109-120.] *quoted* Eg. 1782, 44 : *see note.* 110. *mor cét nob.*] *dob. mor*  
 ndam S; *rob. mor ndaim* S<sub>2</sub>; *mor ndámh nob. G.* 111. *deich*] ix. SS<sub>2</sub> Eg.  
*le cech láí*] la each lai B; gach lai le, &c., S Eg. 112. *nírb*] nírb RH.  
 113.] *tairrustair uirre in rí rán* Eg. 113-116.] *om.* SS<sub>2</sub>. 114. *a*] 'n-a G.  
 115. *cleith*] leth Eg. 116. *forémid*] ro eimigh H; co nárfét Eg. 117. *iarsin*  
*rosoircis*] iarsin rostoirchis R. Cormac rocluinnim (*with iarsin rosaircis superser.*)  
 HSS<sub>2</sub>; *airchisis uirre* Eg. 123. *atá*] co ata B; co ta R. *tuirme*] HG;



Ciarnait, hand-maid of upright Cormac,  
used to feed from her quern many hundreds,  
ten measures a day she had to grind,  
it was no task for an idler. 110

The noble king came upon her at her task  
all alone in her house,  
and got her with child privily ;  
presently she was unable for heavy grinding. 115

Thereupon the grandson of Conn took pity on her,  
he brought a mill-wright over the wide sea ;  
the first mill of Cormac mac Art  
was a help to Ciarnait. 120

The Caprach of Cormac is in the Rath of the Kings ;  
eastward from the Rath of the Kings (that is the truth of it)  
is the Well of the Numbering of the Clans,  
which is called by the three names :

Liaig Dail Duib Duirb, Tuath Linde, 125  
and Tipra Bo Finne,  
three names to designate it,  
to make known the well of Temair.

Another spring (mighty force),  
which flows south-west from Temair ; 180  
Calf is its name, though it never sucked a cow ;  
Cormac's Kitchen is on its margin.

There rise north of Temair  
Adlaic and Diadlaic of the host ;  
two springs flow diverse thence 185  
down to the Carn of the Boys.

truime, &c., *cæt.* 124. *frisanapar*] RB ; *frisanabar* HG ; *arfhuilt* S<sub>2</sub> ; for a  
fuiled S. *na tri*] *tri* HG ; .u. &c. SS<sub>2</sub>. 125. *Liaig*] *om.* RB ; *lia* G ; *liag*  
*cæt.* *dail*] SS<sub>2</sub> ; *dael cæt.* *duib duirb*] *duirb* B ; *drui bet* R ; *dub doirb* G.  
127. *tri*] .u. SS<sub>2</sub>. *anmand*] *anmandsin*, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>G ; *anmanna side* H. *dia*  
*sloind*] B ; *dia sloinne* R ; *sloindeth* S<sub>2</sub> ; *sloind* S ; *sloint* H ; *sloinnate* G. 128. *do*]  
*di* B. *do silad*] *dia sio*] G ; in .uii. *mad* SS<sub>2</sub>. *topair*] *topur* SS<sub>2</sub>. 129-144] *om.*  
RB. 134. *Diadlaic*] *anadlaic* &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>. 135. *dechair*] *deacair* YSS<sub>2</sub>.

Etir dá Charn na nGillai  
 Deisel Temrach tes Crinnai ;  
 fót co rath ria ndul ar cel,  
 a sóitís dáine deisel. 140

Atúaid frisin tulaig truimm  
 Ráth Cholmáin in Domnain duind ;  
 Lecht Caelchon fo chochma cloch,  
 sair-thúaid ó Luing Ban Temrach.

Caelchu mac Loairn meic Rúaid 145  
 meic Cormaic Cais, carad búaid,  
 príim-giall fer Muman amach,  
 ó táit ruirig Ruis Temrach.

Tech Temrach imatá in ráith,  
 asa tardad dliged cáich, 150  
 maraid fós míad dia samlaib  
 ac rígaib ac ríg-domnaib.

Rí ocus ollam filed,  
 súi, brugaid, bertís dliged,  
 lepta ná loiseti lochit, 155  
 láraig ocus lón-chrochit.

Liaig is dálem, goba gúr,  
 rechtaire, randaire rún,  
 máil na cethra dóib uile  
 i tig ind ríg barr-buide. 160

Rindaide, ráthbuige réil,  
 sciathaire, is fianaide féig,  
 i tig ríg noibdís corn,  
 ba hé a ndliged díles dorn.

139. *ar*] tar SS<sub>2</sub>. 140. *deisel*] ar deisel, &c., YGS. *a sóitís*] a soidh dis H ; isoidtís G ; asuididís Y ; asoighdís S ; asuighdís S<sub>2</sub>. 141. *frisín*] forin S ; forsin Y. 142. *domnain*] domain SS<sub>2</sub>. 143. *cochma*] chocho Y. 145. *Loairn*] Loghairn, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>. 146. *Cormaic*] *om.* YSS<sub>2</sub>. *cais*] cais cais B ; cais nech SS<sub>2</sub> ; cais-neach Y ; *om.* G. *carad*] RB ; beṛ H ; dobeired, &c., YG ; dochanad, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>. 147. *giall*] giallu Y ; gilla S<sub>2</sub>. *fer*] ar YS. *Muman*] n-Erenn B. 148. *táit*] tá Y. 149-180] *om.* B. 150. *asa*] as YHG. *cáich*] do cach YSHG. *tardad*] tarat S<sub>2</sub>. 151. *míad*] ni R ; dronce H. 155. *lepta*] R ; lepaid, &c.,

Between the two Carns of the Lads  
 is the Deisel of Temair south of Crinna,  
 a sward that brings luck before going to death,  
 where men used to make a turn right-hand-wise. 140

North of the great hill  
 is the Rath of Colman, the brown Domnan ;  
 the Grave of Caelchu under a like heap of stones,  
 lies north-east from the Hall of the Women of Temair.

Caelchu son of Loarn son of Ruad 145  
 son of Cormac Cas, who loved victory,  
 was the first hostage out of the men of Munster ;  
 from him descend the princes of Ros Temrach.

The House of Temair, round which is the rath,  
 from it was given to each his due ; 150  
 honour still continues to such as them  
 at the courts of kings and princes.

King and Chief of the Poets,  
 sage, farmer, they received their due,  
 couches that torches burn not, 155  
 the thighs and the chine-steaks.

Leech and spencer, stout smith,  
 steward, portly butler,  
 the heads of the beasts to all of them  
 in the house of the yellow-haired king. 160

Engraver, famed architect,  
 shield-maker, and keen soldier,  
 in the king's house they drank a cup ;  
 this was the special right of their hands.

*cæt.* *lochit*] *ed.* lochuid R ; loichet, &c., *cæt.* *na loiscti*] nach loisceann, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub>.  
 156. *láraig*] R ; laarc, &c., *cæt.* *crochit*] *ed.* crochuid R ; crochait S<sub>2</sub> ; croicheat,  
 &c., *cæt.* 158. *rechtaire randaire*] r. ramuidhe R ; rannaighe rachtaire S.  
 159. *máil*] S ; maoil H ; maol R ; mæl YGS<sub>2</sub>. 161. *Rindaide*] randaidhi S<sub>2</sub> ;  
 rannuire R. *ráthbuige*] rathbuidhe, &c., SS<sub>2</sub> ; rathuige R. *réil*] rel HYS ;  
 reidh R. 162. *is*] *om.* RGS. *fanaide féig*] luamuire leir R ; fianuidhe leir  
 S<sub>2</sub>. 163. *noibdis*] R ; do ibdis, &c., YHG ; ro ibdis S ; nobitis S<sub>2</sub>.

- Drúth, fídhellach, fuirseóir fáen, 165  
 cuislendach, clesamnach cláen,  
 colpa a cuit feóla iar fír,  
 in tan tigdis i tech rí.
- Rigthech cuit senmaire sáir, 170  
 caisleór is cerda ima stáib ;  
 cornaire, bonnaire ar bríg,  
 déde romeltís midmír.
- Muiridin do Mál Midi,  
 cairemain is cirmairi,  
 dlíged don droing threbar thréin, 175  
 íchtar remur in tšlinnéin.
- Dromanna dronna in cech threib  
 do drúithib, do doirseóirib ;  
 uruscla ingen cen ach  
 iar n-indrum tige Temrach. 180
- Colum Cille, crenad brait,  
 robris in cath for Diarmait ;  
 re ndul dó tar muir amach  
 rongiallsatar tuir Temrach.
- Cretem Crist, rochés i crí, 185  
 rochuir cech nert ar nemní ;  
 ar brón do dáim Dé 'n-a tig  
 ní tart termann do Themraig.

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165. *drúth*] R; drái, &c., *cæt.* *fídhellach*] fídhellaigh, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub>. 166. *cuislendach*] cuislendaigh, &c., RSS<sub>2</sub>. *clesamnach*] clesaide, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub>H. *cláen*] caom R. 167. *colpa*] colptha, &c., HG. *a cuid*] icuid G. 168. *tigdis*] tiagaid YHG. *i*] ó Y; *om.* R. *ríg*] in rí R. 169. *rigthech*] richneach Y? S; rithnech S<sub>2</sub>. *senmaire*] senmure R; senmoiri, &c., HGS<sub>2</sub>. *sáir*] R; saer, &c., *cæt.* 170. *caisleor*] cuisleor R; caisleóir YSH; cuisleóir S<sub>2</sub>G. *cerda ima stáib*] *ed.* *cerdæ* imastaib R; *cerd* imaraen G; *cerda* mar oen, &c., *cæt.* 172. *ro*] no G; do R. *mid-mír*] mimír G; in mír R. 173.] Maroighi dar múr maighe R. *mál*] múr S<sub>2</sub>. 175. *dlíged don*] dleaghait an G. 177. *dronna*] droma R;

Jester, chess-player, sprawling buffoon, 165  
 piper, cheating juggler,  
 the shank was their share of meat in truth,  
 when they came into the king's house.

The shins were the share of the noble musician,  
 of the castle-builder and artificer, round the bowl; 170  
 the cup-bearer, the lusty foot-servant,  
 both consumed the broken meats.

A charge on the prince of Meath,  
 were the cobblers and comb-makers,  
 the due of the strong skilled folk 175  
 was the fat underside of the shoulder.

The backs, the chins in every dwelling  
 were given to druids and doorkeepers.  
 there was protection for maidens with never an "ach"! 180  
 after serving the house of Tara.

Colum Cille, who used to redeem captives,  
 broke the battle against Diarmait;  
 before he went away over-sea  
 the lords of Temair gave him obedience.

The faith of Christ who suffered in the flesh 185  
 has brought all strength to nought;  
 because of the sorrow of the people of God in its house  
 He gave not protection to Temair.

dronndha S<sub>2</sub>. 178. *doirseoirib*] furseoirib SS<sub>2</sub>. 179. *uruscla*] erescla R;  
 urusclæ H; urusgail S; uarascala S<sub>2</sub>. *ingen*] RS; i. S<sub>2</sub>; dingin, &c., YG;  
 dingein H. *cen ach*] amach S<sub>2</sub>. 180. *indrum*] Y; innrim S;  
 indrom S<sub>2</sub>; indr̄ RG; indradh H. 181. *crenað*] RB; crenuid H; ro cren,  
 &c., YSS<sub>2</sub>G. 182. *ro bris . . . for*] RB; dorat . . . do cæt. 183. *re*] iar R.  
*dui*] dula H; dula YS. *tar*] ar HGSY. 184. *rongiallsadar*] B; rogiallsatar  
 RS; rogiallastar S<sub>2</sub>; rogiallsad, &c., YG; dogiallsad H. *tuir*] turi (?) R.  
*Temrach*] na Temrach YHG. 186. *rochuir*] dochuir YHG. 187. *do*  
*ddim*] do dann B; deghrand S; deaggand S<sub>2</sub>. *'n-a tig*] do nim RS.  
 188.] robé ar termand ó theamraig S.

## TEMAIR IV.

Domun duthain a lainde,  
 comul caire cét cuire,  
 bréc ilar líth fri labrad,  
 acht adrad ríg na n-uile.

Rofáith cach recht im road, 5  
 roscáich cach cert co grian ;  
 Temair indiu cid fásach,  
 bóí ré ba násad niad.

Nirbo thráig a tor tóebach,  
 diarbo hóenach scor scélach ; 10  
 ba mór ndám diarbo domgnas  
 in dúnad fondglas férach.

Ba dind n-ordnide n-imglice ;  
 ba borg-bile co mbodb-slait ;  
 fri taidbsin ba druimm n-airdire 15  
 i n-aimsir ui Chuind Cormaic.

Is cáem in gairm noscóema,  
 ainm doróega sech rúama ;  
 tarca Bóind bró bága  
 Cathir Chrófind, cró búada. 20

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L.RBYHGSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>VH<sub>2</sub>.      1. *duthain*] duthaine L.      *a lainde*] om. L.  
 2. *caire*] om. L.      *cuire* <sup>u</sup>caire L.      3. *fri*] re (*with ri superscr.*) R; re BĠ;  
 ri Y; rea H.      5. *roféith*] rofaid RBY; rofaidh H; rofhaidh S; rofaith G;  
 rosfaidh S<sub>2</sub>; atchíu L.      *recht*] creach S<sub>2</sub>.      *im*] mār G.      *road*] L;  
 roadh S; roát S<sub>2</sub>; raad BHG; rāad R.      6. *roscáich*] roscait, &c., S<sub>2</sub>H; roscaid,  
 &c., YS; dechliu L.      *cach*] om. L.      8. *ré*] tan RBH.      9. *nirbo thráig*]  
 L; dobo blaith S; robo blaith, &c., cæt.      *tor*] tort L.      10. *diarbo*] ciarbo,  
 &c., BS<sub>2</sub>G; ropo R.      *scor*] scoit L.      11. *ba mór ndám*] sócaid B; sochí R;

## •TEMAIR IV.

This world, transient its splendour !  
perishable gathering of an hundred hosts ;  
deceitful to describe is the multitude of delights,  
save only the adoration of the King of all things.

Perished is every law concerning high fortune, 5  
crumbled to the clay is every ordinance ;  
Temair, though she be desolate to-day,  
once on a time was the habitation of heroes.

There was no exhaustion of her many-sided towers,  
where was the assembly of storied troops ; 10  
many were the bands whose home was  
the green-soiled grassy keep.

It was a stronghold of famous men and sages,  
a castle like a trunk with warrior-scions,  
a ridge conspicuous to view, 15  
in the time of Cormac grandson of Conn.

Fair is the title that adorns it,  
the name he chose [to mark it out] among cities ;  
the Fort of Crofind, pen of victory,  
excels Board, millstone of combat. 20

bui mór ndam, &c., HGSS<sub>2</sub>.      *domgnas*] domgnáis L; domnus SS<sub>2</sub>.      12. *in*  
*dunad*] L; aniu cid, &c., *cæt.*      *fondglas*] foglass, &c., LS.      10-12] *illeg.*  
*in Y.*      13. *dind*] fond L.      14. *ba*] bad Y.      *borg-bile*] L; boirgbile G;  
foirglige, &c., BS; forglidhe, &c., *cæt.*      *bodb-slait*] badb slait RH; bodu slait,  
G; blad blait L; bad slait B; blad slait S; blad loit Y; blath tslait S<sub>2</sub>.      15. *fri*]  
L; dia SS<sub>2</sub>; ria *cæt.*      *taidbsin*] taibhsin S; taibsib S<sub>2</sub>.      *ba druimm*] ar  
druing S<sub>2</sub>      17-20] *only L, and R in top margin.*      18. *ainm*] amal L.  
*doroega*] doragha R.      20. *Chrofhind*] Chroind L.

Dia mbói Cormac fri clotha,  
 ba réil roblad a retha :  
 ní fríth dún amail Temraig,  
 ba sí rún belaig betha.

Balc a bríg-sain fiad buidnib 25  
 ind rí-g-sain réided Temraig ;  
 is ferr dúin tólaib fine  
 tuirem a thige teglaig.

IN tech mór mílib amus 30  
 do dínib nirbo dolus ;  
 cathir glan glérib glain-fer  
 secht cét traiged a tomus.

Nístairchell báise burba,  
 ná cumga gáise garga ; 35  
 nirbo rubach fria terba,  
 sé cóic cubat a harda.

Nói cluid, nísclúi garb-drend,  
 la nói ndúi 'n-a timchell,  
 fri find-airbert na find-chrand,  
 cathir imairderc imthend. 40

Adba ind rí-g, ríad rinde,  
 forsndáilte fín co finde,  
 ba dín, ba dún, ba dindgna,  
 tri chóicait imda inde.

21. *fri*] L; fa S; im S<sub>2</sub>; fo *cæt.* a] do RB. *roblad*] roblat LS.  
 23. *ní*] nir S<sub>2</sub>; noco, &c., RB. *amail*] mar RBS<sub>2</sub>. *Temraig*] Temair  
*codd.* 24. *ba sí*] L; do bai Y; robói, &c., RB; robé, &c., HGS<sub>2</sub>; robí  
 S. *rún*] a rún S. *betha*] an betha S<sub>2</sub>. 25. *Balc*] bailce B. a] in L;  
 a m. Y. *fiad*] L; uas, &c. *cæt.* 26. *réided*] L; rogab RBG; dogab, &c.,  
 HYS; rogab dogab S<sub>2</sub>. 27. *dúin*] dún, &c., BSS<sub>2</sub>. *tólaib*] tóla RB.  
 28. *tuirem*] tomus RB. 29-36] om. B. 29. *in*] a YHGS<sub>2</sub>. *mílib*] míle  
 R. 30. *do*] con YHSS<sub>2</sub>. *dínib*] dainib, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub>; dáine R. *dolus*] donus  
 YS<sub>2</sub>. 31. *glán*] mor S<sub>2</sub>. *glérib*] glere G. *glain-*] YGS; glán-*cæt.*  
 32. *secht*] tri YHGSS<sub>2</sub>. *tomus*] thomoss L. 33. *tairchell*] tairmchell, &c.,



When Cormac was among the famous  
bright shone the fame of his career ;  
no keep like Temair could be found ;  
she was the secret place of the road of life.

Strong before hosts was the might 25  
of this king who used to ride through Temair ;  
better for us than tribes unnumbered  
is the tale of his household retinue.

The great house with thousands of soldiers 30  
was not obscure to posterity ;  
the shining fort with distinctions of the illustrious,  
seven hundred feet was its measure.

Fierce folly did not hold sway over it,  
nor strictness of harsh wisdom ; 35  
there was no violence to annoy it,  
six times five cubits was its height.

Nine walls it had, fierce fight could not demolish,  
with nine ramparts round about them ;  
with noble equipment of the noble scions,  
it was a fort illustrious and impregnable. 40

The dwelling of the king, commotion of lances,  
whereon was poured out the sparkling wine,  
was a refuge, a keep, a fortress,  
there were thrice fifty chambers in it.

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YHGS ; tairm R. 35. *rubach*] robeac Y ; robeag H ; robecc G ; rubeag S ;  
bhec S<sub>2</sub>. *fria*] fri RYGH. *terba*] hañtba R ; hearba S. 36. *cóic*] *cóicait* L. *cubat*] comfhad S<sub>2</sub>. 37. *cluid*] cluidhe R. *nislúí*] no clai R (?)  
B ; no cluidi Y ; no cluid H ; no cludha G ; noseluidhedh S ; naclaidhi S<sub>2</sub>.  
*garb-drend*] L ; gairb-thend, &c., *cæt.* 38. *la*] *om.* L. *nduí*] nduma YHG ;  
nuidhe SS<sub>2</sub>. 39. *fri*] *om.* L ; re YH ; ré S ; le G. *find-airbert*] in  
airbirt L. *chrand*] chland LG ; carnn R. 41. *ind*] in L ; *om. cæt.* *riad*  
*rinde*] *ed.* rí adranna L ; rí adrindi Y ; rí uasrenda R ; rí uarranda B ; rí uas rinni  
H ; rí uas roinde G ; rígh os-runda S ; rí co raindi S<sub>2</sub>. 42. *forsn-*] coan- B ;  
con- R. *finde*] finda R. 44. *inda*] imdaigh, &c., BHS<sub>2</sub>. *inde*] imme,  
&c., RBYSS<sub>2</sub>.

Tri chóicait láech co lainidib, 45  
 nírbó borg báeth ar bruidin,  
 ba sé lucht, línib dindgnai,  
 cecha imdai de suidib.

Ba hálaind in slóg samlaid ;  
 taitned ór ar a n-idnaib : 50  
 tri chóicait airel n-ergnaid,  
 cóica cach airel imglain.

Secht cubait, cen nach condail,  
 fiad in dáim drongaig drennaig,  
 fri hannud sutrall solus, 55  
 ba sé tomus in tellaig.

A secht n-aile, rochuala,  
 fri cert glaine cen séna,  
 ségda sainemla sáera  
 cáema caindelbra créda. 60

IN chathir gríanach glan-sin  
 fledach fianach co fondsib,  
 inde fri soichli solus  
 dá secht ndorus de dorsib.

Ba hé dliged ind rí-g-sin, 65  
 ól asnibed in slóg-sin ;  
 ba mét mór-mór in lán-sin,  
 tri chét ól isind ól-sin.

45. *tri*] bfid RB ; bi (*with a d erased*) H ; bad YS ; boi G. *coicait*] LS<sub>2</sub> ;  
 coeca, &c., *cæt.* *co lainidib*] collaine L ; co lainib, &c., BS. 46. *nirbo*] robo  
 RBS. *borg*] L ; brog G ; broc, &c., RBHS ; borb YS<sub>2</sub>. *báeth*] *om.* L. *bruidin*]  
 bruighin, &c., YGSS<sub>2</sub> ; bruióc H. 47. *ba sé*] L ; ba he HGS<sub>2</sub> ; ba he a YS ; he  
 a RB. *línib*] linaib LS. 48. *cecha*] cach, &c., LY. *de suidib*] do shaigidh R ;  
 do taigib B ; di suidin Y ; fri suidhe S ; fri suidib S<sub>2</sub>. 49. *ba*] L ; rop, &c.,  
*cæt.* *in slóg*] na sloigh G. 50. *taitned ór*] taitnem óir, &c., YHGSS<sub>2</sub>.  
*ar a*] L ; ósa L ; osin S<sub>2</sub>. *n-idnaib*] *om.* L ; dingnaib, &c., RB ; imdhaib S<sub>2</sub>.  
 51. *tri chóicait*] *om.* L. *n-ergnaid*] nairgnaid L ; ergna S<sub>2</sub> ; [ergnaid, &c., *cæt.*  
 52. *cach*] L ; in R ; in cach, &c., *cæt.* *imglain*] inmain, &c., RBH ; nimdaib,  
 &c., YG ; imdaigh S ; nimdaigh S<sub>2</sub>. 53-68] *om.* B. 53. *cubait*] coicait L

Thrice fifty heroes with coronets,—  
 (it was a castle not foolish and brawling)  
 that was the tale, according to the counts of fortresses,  
 in every chamber of the number. 45

Goodly was the throng in this wise,  
 the gold gleamed from their weapons;  
 thrice fifty stately couches there were,  
 and fifty men to each shining couch. 50

Seven cubits, without any dividing,  
 before the crowded warlike company,  
 with blazing torches burning,  
 that was the measure of the hearth. 55

Other seven, I have heard,  
 made in truth a brightness beyond denial,  
 majestic, notable, noble,  
 beautiful chandeliers of brass. 60

This sunny shining citadel,  
 festive, martial, with cask-staves,  
 therein, amid radiant hospitality,  
 were doors twice seven in number.

This was the right of that king—  
 a vessel from which that host would drink,  
 a vast capacity was the full content thereof,  
 three hundred draughts there were in that vessel. 65

*cen nach*] cannach L; conach R; cindach H; cendach, &c., YS. *condair*  
*connail* L. 54. *fiad*] fiada, &c., YGS<sub>2</sub>. *in*] gach n- S. *drongaig*  
*drennaig*] ndrongaich ndrennaig L; ndronga ndremaidh R; ndrongaigh ndrennaib  
 S; drong drem̄ G. 56. *sé*] L; he, &c., *cat.* *in tellaig*] a haif R. 57. *a secht*  
*n-aile*] secht coicait aile g. b. L. *aile*] ee R. 58. *glaine*] L; gli R'; nglaine,  
 &c., *cat.* *cen séna*] om. L. 59. *segda*] sega, &c., RS. *sainemla*  
 sain dille L. 62. *fianach*] ianach HG; fiadhach S<sub>2</sub>. *fondsib*] L; foinsib,  
 &c., RYHGS; foiesib S<sub>2</sub>. 63. *fri*] fa YH; ba RGSS<sub>2</sub>. *soichli*] soichla  
 R; soichle H; soithlib Y; soichleach G. *solus*] sobus L. 64. *secht*  
 sé L. 66. *asnided*] nosnibid, &c., RHG.

A n-ól n-uidech fri húabur na ruirech rúad, na ráin-fer, nirbo dimbraig don áirem ; tri chét dáilem nosdáiled.	70
Nói cóicait stáb a roga, ba sí dál, toga a tuile, sech ba carrmocol glan-bale, ba hór ba hargat uile.	75
Tri chóicait coica ngalach, cen nach n-anad fri fuirech, fri hairer, cennach tólach, na ríg rógach, na ruirech.	80
Cóica rechtaire ránda lasin flaith fálda fírda ; cóica foss fledach fír-glan la cóicait ríglach ríгда.	
Cóica láech i n-a sessam connóitis in fáel fossad, céin bíd in rí ac óul, ar ná bad dóud dossam.	85
Ba hán don mál ba móu, ar cach lóu ba lia : tricha cét nochonfuirged, mac Airt tuirmed each dia.	90

69. *a n-ól*] L; anuall *cæt.* *nuidech*] núag L; nuall RB; noidech H (*see Commentary*). *fri*] ria n- H; rianan RB. 70. *ruad na ran-fer*] ruam na raidead B; ruamda raidhet R. 71. *nirbo*] nidat, &c., RBH; niba S; nirbod G. *dimbraig*] L; dimgaid R; dimdaig, &c., BS; dimdaid SS<sub>2</sub>; dimd, &c., HG. 71. *don airem*] ind árim L; an airem Y; intairem, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>; dian aireamh G. 72. *tri chét*] tricha L; .l. G; tri coeca Y. *dáilem nosdáiled*] ro dosdailead Y. 73. *nói*] L; tri *cæt.* *stáb a*] stába, &c., LRBHG? *roga*] L; toga, &c. *cæt.* 74.] *sic* L; fiadh ceoh daim tolaí tuile H; do [di RB] each daim tola tuile, &c., *cæt.* 75. *sech*] acht RBYS; *om.* S<sub>2</sub>. *glanbale*] glanmac RB. 77-80] *om.* BSS<sub>2</sub>. 77. *coica*] .l. a R; coica G; coicea H; coeca Y. 78. *cen nach*] connach R; cenach HY. *nanaid*] annach R; nannac, &c., HGY. *fuirech*] ruirech R. 79. *cennach*] chídnā R; cendach H; cenach Y. 80. *rógach*] roga R; rogach *cæt.* 81. *rándá*] G; randa LH; ranta Y; rámda, &c., RBSS<sub>2</sub>. 82. *lasin*]

Harmonious and stately was the carouse  
of the fiery chieftains and noblemen;— 70  
there were none neglected of the number ;  
three hundred cupbearers dispensed the liquor.

Nine times fifty beakers to choose from ;  
this was the custom,—a plentiful choice for all ;  
except what was carbuncle, clear and strong, 75  
all was gold and silver.

Thrice fifty steaming cooks,  
in attendance unceasingly,  
with victuals, an abundant supply,  
on the jolly kings and chieftains. 80

Fifty noble stewards  
with the lordly honourable prince,  
fifty festive spruce lackeys,  
with [each] fifty of kingly champions.

Fifty men standing 85  
guarded the sturdy wolf,  
as long as the king was a-drinking,  
that no trouble might visit him.

It was glory to the prince that was greatest,  
every day [his retinue] was more numerous ; 90  
thirty hundreds whom he kept in attendance  
the son of Art counted daily.

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risin RBSS<sub>2</sub>. *fálda*] falga RB. *firda*] fi. da L (fieda fos.) 84. *la*] ri  
RB. *riglach*] riglœch YS<sub>2</sub>; firlœch R; primlœch, &c., BH; priomlach G.  
*rigda*] primda, &c., RBHG. 85. *lœch*] fer LRB. 86. *connóitis*] L;  
condoitis H; conoidis S; conoghdaís G; conettis R; connetis B; conestais Y;  
coneisdis S<sub>2</sub>. *fossad*] fosaidh H. 87. *in ri*] in rig, &c., BSS<sub>2</sub>, and righ H.  
*ac óul*] *ed.* acool HYS; ac a ol L; ocool R; accoal G; conool B; aginola S<sub>2</sub>.  
88. *ar na bad*] ar na ba RBHG; conabad Y; conabat S<sub>2</sub>; con nabudh S; ar na  
hobbad L. *dóud*] S; doad LG; dood B; dosodh R; dora S<sub>2</sub>. *dossam*] *l*;  
dosum, &c., BGS; dosan, &c., RY; dossain H; dsan S<sub>2</sub>. 89. *hán*] L; mó  
S<sub>2</sub>; mo *cæt.* *mou*] modha S<sub>2</sub>. 90.] ar gan cloadh ba liadh S<sub>2</sub>. *lou*] *l*;  
bou B. 91. *tricha cét*] trí mile L. *nochon fuirged*] nochan fuirged R;  
noco fuirged B; nochonuirgedh S; nochonuidmead Y; nochnuidbed S<sub>2</sub>; neach no  
fhuirged G; nonbur fuirged H; banairmech L. 92. *tuirmed*] earned L;  
truimed ? R.

Cend-drong filed fó fírda,  
 saigtís dlíged a ndála,  
 is derb ní báes cia 'tbera 95  
 co n-áes chena each dána.

Tuirmem teglach i ndálaib  
 tige Temrach do dínib :  
 is í-seo a n-árim fire,  
 tricha míle de mílib. 100

Diambóí Cormac i Temraig,  
 ar roblat ós each rogail,  
 rí-gathgein meic Airt Óenfir  
 ní fríth de dóinib domain. D.

Cormac co cáme chrotha 105  
 ba fotha fond-bale flatha ;  
 genair ó Eghtaig imgil  
 mac do ingin Uile Acha.

O bóí Solom oc siriud,  
 ferr each ciniud fri comul, 110  
 gein bad chumma fri Cormac  
 a Dé in tormalt domun ? D.

93. *cend-*] L; an R; a *cæt.* *fó*] L; ba *cæt.* 94. *saigtís*] L; cuintís,  
 &c., BS<sub>2</sub>; cuingidís H; condís S; cuingtís, &c., RYGS<sub>2</sub>. *a ndála*] atcuála  
 S<sub>2</sub>. 95. *is derb*] L; ocus, &c., *cæt.* *cia*] ced Y. 96. *co n-*] cen L.  
*each dána*] each duana S<sub>2</sub>; om. R. 97. *tuirmem*] tuirem R. *i ndálaib*]  
 na tolaib, &c., RBYHG; co tolaib S; na toraib S<sub>2</sub>. 98. *do*] de ? L; *da* Y.  
*dínib*] dainib, &c., GSS<sub>2</sub>. 99. *í*] L; é *cæt.* *a n-árim*] L; an airim B; an  
 airem R; anairiom H; ant aiream, &c., YGS<sub>2</sub>; ant uirim S. 100. *tricha*]  
 L; cóica ar, &c., *cæt.* *mílib*] mílib S<sub>2</sub>; dainib no domílib S. 101. *Temraig*]  
 Temf S<sub>2</sub>; Temair, &c., *cæt.* 102. *ar*] L; a *cæt.* *roblat*] robladh HG;  
 roblad Y; roblaidh S<sub>2</sub>; robf S. *rogail*] rogain, &c., BYGSS<sub>2</sub>; rcg R; rogein H.

The chief company of the good genuine poets  
 who declared the rule of their assembly,  
 along with the professors of every art in general, 95  
 'tis certain whatever that company says is not folly.

Let us tell in full tale the household  
 of the house of Temair for posterity ;  
 this is their right number,  
 thirty thousands in all. 100

When Cormac was in Temair,  
 beyond all high prowess for his great might,  
 a kingly equal to the son of Art Oenfer  
 was not to be found among the men of the world.

Cormac, fair of form, 105  
 was the firm set foundation of the kingdom ;  
 he was born of white-skinned Echtach,  
 [he was] son of the daughter of Ulc Acha.

Since Solomon was . . .  
 who was better than all progenies together, 110  
 what offspring that would match Cormac  
 hath the earth devoured, O God ?

103. *rig-athgein*] ri aithghein GS ; rig aithin Y ; rigad gein B ; ridha gein R.  
 104. *ni frith*] L ; nircin, &c., RBHG ; nir gein, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub>. 105-108] *om* BYSS<sub>2</sub>.  
 105. *cæme*] caine R. *erolha*] clotha R. 106. *fatha*] flaithe G.  
 107. *Echtaig imgil*] Ectai findgil R ; Eaichtghe finngil G. 108. *do*  
*d' G* ; don R. *Uile Acha*] uilefath R. 109-112] *om*. BYSS<sub>2</sub>.  
 109. *oc*] L ; fri *cæt.* *siriud*] sirud R. 110. *ferr*] L ; fer *cæt.* *fri*] do  
 HGS. *comul*] comid *fcs.* of L *wrongly*. 111. *gein*] cein H. *chumma*]  
*commai* R ; commaithe, &c., HGS. 112. *a Dé*] ate *fcs.* of L *wrongly*.  
*tormailt*] tormaice *fcs.* of L *wrongly*. *domun*] in domun, &c., RHGS.

## TEMAIR V.

Temair, Tailtiu, tír n-óenaig, Raigne, Rachru, ráith n-úabair, Cuillend co n-abainn Crommad, Tromra, Trommad, Druim Suamaig,	
A síd i mBruig, bíd cuman, Cumar Druman, Druim Calad, Belat, Blatine, Bruigin, Muincille, Mured, Maigin,	5
Cermna, Caprach, is Callann, Mag mBreg co n-ilar drummann, Cnoc Dabilla, Mag Mellenn, Crinna, Cerrenn, Colt, Cuillend,	10
Muirtemne, Tlachtga, Tuirbe, Súilighe, Slanga, Semne, Síd Muine máerda mreachtgna, Echtga, Ochaine, Ai, Aigle,	15
Nás, Carman, Cualu, Celbe, Raigniu, Rafann, is Rairenn, Dún Inteing, Dún Cláir, Dún Crea, Dún mBrea, ocus Dún Cairenn,	20

Bd Ed HSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>VX. *Partly illegible in Ed & H, almost entirely so in*  
 S<sub>2</sub>. 3. *Cuillend*] cuillind Bd. *abann*] obann BdS; abann, &c., HVS<sub>3</sub>.  
*Crommad*] crom H; croma S<sub>3</sub>V. 4. *Tromra*] tromara Bd. *Trommad*]  
 tromma H; troma S<sub>3</sub>V. 5. *síd*] Bd; sítha S; síth *cæt.* *bíd*] bruig Bd.  
*cuman*] cummal Bd. 6. *druman*] comor H. *Druim*] drumman Bd.  
*Calad*] calaid, &c., HS<sub>3</sub>. 7. *Belat*] belgat Bd; belaid Ed.; beluid  
 H; belad S. *Blatine*] blaitime 7 S. 8. *Mured*] muirenn H;  
 muirig S<sub>3</sub>. 9-12] after 16 H. 9. *Cermna*] Bd; cerna, &c., SS<sub>3</sub>V; cernad (?)  
 H. 11. *Dabilla*] da pilla Bd. 12. *Cuillend*] cuillind S. 3. *Tuirbe*]



## TEMAIR V.

Temair, Taitiu, land of assembly,  
 Raigne, Rachru, proud rath,  
 Cuillend with the river Crommad,  
 Tromra, Trommad, Druim Suamaig,

The Mound at Brug, it shall be remembered, 5  
 Cumar Droman, Druim Calaid,  
 Belat, Blaitine, Bruigin,  
 Muincille, Mured, Maigin,

Cermna, Caprach, and Callann,  
 Mag Breg with numerous hills, 10  
 Cnoc Dabilla, Mag Mellenn,  
 Crinna, Cerrenn, Colt, Cuillend,

Muirtemne, Tlachtga, Tuirbe,  
 Suilighe, Slanga, Semne,  
 Sid Muine, majestic, many-hued, 15  
 Echtga, Ochaine, Ai, Aigle,

Nas, Carman, Cualu, Celbe,  
 Raigniu, Rafann, and Rairenn,  
 Dun Inteing, Dun Clair, Dun Crea,  
 Dun Brea, and Dun Cairenn, 20

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tuirme, &c., HS. 14. *Suilighe*] Suilidhi Bd; suilge, &c., S<sub>3</sub>V. *Semne*  
 simne Bd; saeimne S<sub>3</sub>. 15. *Sid muine*] S; dmuine Bd; sigmuine H;  
 sithmuine S<sub>3</sub>V. *mærdá*] mærna BdS. *mrechtgna*] mbrechtgna Bd;  
 mbrsda H; mbrechtge S<sub>3</sub>V; brechtgha S. 16. *Ochaine*] Bd; eochaine HS;  
 ochain S<sub>3</sub>V. *Ai*] Bd *om. cat.* *Aigle*] aigli Bd; aichliu H; aicchle V.  
 17. *Celbe*] ceilphiu Bd; ceilbiu Ed. 18. *Rairenn*] *ed.* rairiu Bd; rairbe, &c.,  
 SS<sub>3</sub>; rauribe H; ruirbe V. 19. *Inteing*] Bd; intang? Ed; incc H; eng S;  
 eing S<sub>3</sub>V. *Cláir*] clar Bd. *Crea*] crega Bd; creua H. 20. *mBrea*] mbera  
 Bd; mbreua H. *Cairenn*] *ed.* cairiu Bd Ed; corpri H; cairbre, &c., SS<sub>3</sub>V.

Uisnech, Athais, Ard Fedá, Slemun, Sláine, Síd Coba, Dermag dairechda druimnech, Lusmag, Luimnech, Lecc Loga,	
Druim Rúaid, Druim Ríg, Druim Rossa, Druim Criad, Druim Cáin, Druim Cressa, Druim nDían, Druim nDailb, Druim nEssa, Druim Meith, Druim nAird, Druim nDressa,	25
Eithmann, Aisi, Ard nGabla, Cernna, Collamair, Cnogba, Crufot, Crinna, Crúach Aigle, Uachtar nAilbe, Ard Odba.	30
Brí Scáil, Brí Aire, Bri Áine, Brí Breg, Brí Ech, Brí Féle, Brí Molt, Brí Dam, Brí Díle, Brí Léith, ocus Brí Ele,	35
Loch Dá Dall, Loch Faife find, Loch nIng, Loch nGabur, Loch nGand, Loch nDub, Loch nDreman, Loch nDond, Loch Corr, Loch Cera, Loch Camm,	40
Loch Rífb, Loch Cúan, Loch Codail, Loch Uair, Loch Aire, Loch Enaig, Loch Lein, Loch Láig, Loch Lugair, Loch Cuil, Loch Cimmi Cnedaig,	

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21. *Uisnech*] Uuis̄ Bd. *Athais*] aithais Bd. *Feda*] ferna S. 22. *Slaine*] Bd; slaingiu H; slanga, &c., SS<sub>3</sub>V. *Síd Coba*] 7 Cnodbha S. 23-30.] *om.* S. 23. *dairechda*] Ed H; daireach dairmag Bd; dairedhach, &c., S<sub>3</sub>V. 24. *Loga*] bloga Bd; blagha Ed. 25. *Ríg*] ri Bd. 26. *Criad*] criedh H; cad Bd; caid Ed; cain S<sub>3</sub>V. *Cáin*] cruaid, &c., S<sub>3</sub>V. 27. *ndailb*] ndalb H; nalb Ed; ndall Bd. *n-Essa*] essa Bd. 29. *Eithmann*] Bd; Eatmaud Ed; Eathmainn V. *Aissi*] aisi Bd Ed; indsi ? H. 30. *Collamair*] collamar Bd. *Cnogba*] cnoba Bd; cnodhba V. 31. *Crufot*] crufann Bd; crufaidh? Ed; cruthaigh S. *Aigle*] oigli S; aicchle V. 32. *n-Ailbe*] &c., Bd Ed; aighne HS; aidhne S<sub>3</sub>; aicchne V. *Odba*] oba Bd. 33. *Scáil*] scairb H.

Uisnech, Athais, Ard Feda,  
Slemun, Slaine, Sid Coba,  
Dermag of the oakwoods and the hills,  
Lusmag, Luimnech, Lecc Loga,

Druim Ruaid, Druim Rig, Druim Rossa, 25  
Druim Criad, Druim Cain, Druim Cressa,  
Druim Dian, Druim Dailb, Druim Essa,  
Druim Meith, Druim Aird, Druim Dressa,

Eithmann, Aisi, Ard Gabla,  
Cernna, Collamair, Cnogba, 30  
Crufot, Crinna, Cruach Aigle,  
Uachtar Ailbe, Ard Odba,

Bri Scail, Bri Airc, Bri Aine,  
Bri Breg, Bri Ech, Bri Fele,  
Bri Molt, Bri Dam, Bri Dile, 35  
Bri Leith, and Bri Ele,

Loch Da Dall, bright Loch Faife,  
Loch Ing, Loch Gabur, Loch Gand,  
Loch Dub, Loch Dreman, Loch Dond,  
Loch Corr, Loch Cera, Loch Camm, 40

Loch Rib, Loch Cuan, Loch Codail,  
Loch Uair, Loch Airc, Loch Enaig,  
Loch Lein, Loch Laig, Loch Lugair,  
Loch Cuil, Loch Cimmi Cnedaig,

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*Airc*] airg Ed SS<sub>3</sub>; airce V; scail H. 34. *Bri Ech*] bri each Bd; bri aird H;  
bri ard S; oocus, &c., SS<sub>3</sub>. *Fele*] feile ? H; ele SS<sub>3</sub>V. 36. *Leith*]  
leth S. *ocus*] bri airg Bd. *Ele*] hele Bd; eilride ? H; berre S<sub>3</sub>.  
37. *Dá Dall*] dadall Bd; dabuil Ed; ndabuill H; dabhail S; dabhal S<sub>3</sub>V.  
*Faife*] bailbe ? Ed; failbe HS<sub>3</sub>V. 38. *n-Ing*] nding SS<sub>3</sub>V. 40. *Cera*]  
ceraimh S. 41. *Rib*] ri Bd Ed. 42. *Uair*] uar S<sub>3</sub>. *Airc*] airg  
HSS<sub>3</sub>; airce V. 43. *Lein*] lai Bd; lain S. *laig*] ait Bd; laoidh ? H;  
lait S; láigh S<sub>3</sub>; laicch V. *Lugair*] lubair S; lubhair S<sub>3</sub>V. 44. *Cuil*]  
cul Bd. *cnedaig*] cnedaíd Bd.

Mag mBreg, Mag Find, Mag Ferai, Mag Luirg, Mag Lí, Mag Line, Mag Slecht, Mag Cé, Mag Cummai, Mag Moen, Mag Marc, Mag Mide,	45
Sinann, Sligeach, Sruth nDomna, Boand, Banna, ocus Berba, Goistine gleórda, Gréne, Féle, Life, Lind Segsa,	50
Áth Clíath, Áth Croich, Áth Cuile, Ath Í, Áth Orc, Áth Éle, Áth Luirg, Áth Lúain, Áth Cráibe, Áth Fraích, Áth Fíán, Áth Féne,	55
Uasal esnad na cóic n-ess, Ess Rúaid, ba rí na sen-ess, Ess Croich, Ess Muiriath amuig, Ess Dubthaig, Ess Tigernaig,	60
Ráth Guill, Ráth Goirt, Ráth Gabra, Ráth Mór, Ráth Máel, Ráth Medba, Ráth Bece, Ráth Eich, Ráth Emna, Ráth Truim, Ráth Tail, Ráth Temra ;—	
Dindgnai hErend iarsodain fosfácbus, rád cen mebail, do nach ailiu bus chiallda, nodaistrialla co Temair.	65

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46. *Mag Luirg*] om. Bd. 47. *Cé*] cein Bd. *cummai*] cuma SS<sub>3</sub>; cumu V; dummæ? H. 48. *moen*] maoin H; main SS<sub>3</sub>; máin V. *marc*] maire S<sub>3</sub>V. 49. *Sligeach*] sliccech BdHV. *n-Domna*] S; domna Bd; nomnæ? H; nomna S<sub>3</sub>V. 50. *Banna*] bandæ H; barrainde Bd; barrinde? Ed. *ocus Berba*] breba Bd; bearba Ed. 51. *Goistine*] goissden Bd. *gleórda*] om. Bd; gleore S; gleoire? S<sub>2</sub>. *Gréne*] greine, &c., HS<sub>3</sub>V; is greine Ed. 52. *Segsa*] tseaghsæ H. 54. *hÍ*] æi H; ai SS<sub>3</sub>V. 55. *Áth Luirg, Áth Lúain*] ath luain ath luirg Bd. *Craibe*] craoibe H. 56. *Féne*] V; fene HSS<sub>3</sub>; feine Bd. 57. *esnad*] essad Bd; ossnad H; osnadh S; esa V. 58. *ba rí*] bri Bd; fa rig H; fa ri S; ba ricch V. *sen-ess*] sémess Bd. 59. *Ess Cróich*] ess coir Bd. *Muiriath*] moria Bd; muiredhaig (*with* vel *ia superscr.*) S. *amuig*] amuid

Mag Breg, Mag Find, Mag Ferai, 45  
 Mag Luirg, Mag Li, Mag Line,  
 Mag Slecht, Mag Ce, Mag Cummai,  
 Mag Moen, Mag Marc, Mag Mide,

Sinann, Sligech, Sruth Domna,  
 Boand, Banna, and Berba, 50  
 shining Goistine, Grene,  
 Fele, Life, Lind Segsa,

Ath Cliath, Ath Croich, Ath Cuili,  
 Ath I, Ath Orc, Ath Ele,  
 Ath Luirg, Ath Luain, Ath Craibe, 55  
 Ath Fraich, Ath Fian, Ath Fene,

Lordly the roar of the five cataracts,  
 Ess Ruaid, that was king of the ancient cataracts,  
 Ess Croich, Ess Muiriath beyond,  
 Ess Dubthaig, Ess Tigernaig, 60

Rath Guill, Rath Goirt, Rath Gabra,  
 Rath Mor, Rath Mael, Rath Medba,  
 Rath Becc, Rath Eich, Rath Emna,  
 Rath Truim, Rath Tail, Rath Temra;—

The strongholds of Erin after these 65  
 I have left—I say without shame—  
 to someone else that shall be wiser,  
 who may traverse them unto Temair.

Bd. 60. *Ess Tigernaig*] *ess ess tigenāig* Bd; *ess tigem̄m* V. 61. *Guill*  
 S; *nguil cat.* *Goirt*] S; *ngoirt cat.* *Gabra*] *ngabra codd.* 62. *mór*  
*mæl, &c.,* Ed V; *mháil* S<sub>3</sub>. *Mael*] *mail* S; *mór, &c.,* Ed HS<sub>3</sub>V. *Medba*  
*meba* Bd. 63. *Becc*] *feo* Bd; *mbeg* Ed. *Eich*] *ech, &c.,* Ed H.  
*Emna*] *abhna* S; *eabna* Ed. 64. *Truim*] *tromm* Bd; *tróm* S. 65. *iar*  
*cē* Bd; *fri (over an erasure)* Ed. 66. *fosfábus*] *forfagbus* H; *ffagbus, &c.,*  
 S<sub>3</sub>V; *fadhbus (with doruirmeas superser.)* S; *rosfuarus* Ed. *rád*] *ragh* Bd;  
*raid* Ed. 67. *do nach ailiu*] *donachailliu* Bd; *gunachailliu* Ed; *do neoch*  
*aile, &c., cat.* *ciallda*] *cilla* Bd; *cialla* Ed S<sub>3</sub>; *gialla* S. 68. *no*] *na* Ed;  
*ro HSV; o S<sub>3</sub>.* *co*] *fri* Bd Ed.

Ce beith ós Banbai brainig  
 ríg amraí, ard a medair, 70  
 ní fuil rechtas ríg foraib  
 acht a ríg techtas Temair.

Maelsechlaind, géc co nglan-rath,  
 focheird síth ima sen-mag;  
 sech brón mbáis ós cach díniu, 75  
 robé i rígiu Temrach.

Iarsin co bráth rosfodail  
 re cách ós chúch cen mebail,  
 a chland fri soichle sírblad,  
 narab díbdad i Temair. T. 80

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69. *Ce beith*] ce beit Bd; gumbeth S. *brainig*] brainchi Bd; bránaigh Ed; broinigh H; bruinigh S; mbrainigh S<sub>3</sub>V. 70. *rig amraí*] Bd; rig amra Ed; ri amra *cæt.* *ard a*] arda a Bd; arda S. 71. *fhuil*] uil Bd. *rechtas ríg*] racht is fir Bd; reacht ae righ H. 72. *a*] Bd; and H; an S; on Ed S<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. *techtas*] techtbus(?) H. 73. *gég*] set Bd Ed. *glan-rath*] glan maith Bd; glanmod Ed. 74. *síth*] síd Bd Ed S; om. V. *ima*] Bd; imma S; iman S<sub>3</sub>; imon Ed HV. 75. *sech*] o Bd Ed. *mbáis*] bais H; báiss V. *díniu*] Bd; díne, &c., *cæt.* 76. *ro bé*] robe Bd; rombeth S; combeith, &c.,

Though there be over imperial Banba  
famous kings—high their mirth !  
no kingly authority is binding on them  
save from the king that possesses Temair. 70

Maelsechlaind, branch of bright fortune,  
spreads peace about the ancient plain,  
free from mortal pain beyond all generations,  
may he be in the kingship of Temair ! 75

Thereafter, till Doomsday, may it be shared,  
before and above everyone without shame,  
by his line, ever famed for hospitality ;  
may it never be extinct in Temair ! 80

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HS<sub>3</sub>V ; guraib Ed.    *i rigiu*] hir rigu Bd ; a righea Ed ; a righe SS<sub>3</sub> ; a ricche V ; *illeg. in H.*    *Temrach*] a teamair Ed ; a Temraigh, &c., S<sub>3</sub>V.    77. *rosfodail*] S<sub>3</sub> ; rusfod V ; rosfogail H ; rosfoghail SS<sub>2</sub> ; fodairi Bd ; iarsodhain Ed.    78. *re*] Bd ; ria *cæt.*    79. *chland*] Ed ; clann BdS<sub>2</sub> ; sil, &c., *cæt.*    *sír-blad*] silblad, &c., Ed HS<sub>3</sub>V.    80. *narab díbdad*] na ro díbdad (?) H ; narab díbad S<sub>3</sub>V ; nirba díbad Bd ; nirab díbhaidh Ed ; niro díbad S ; nirob díbdhadh S<sub>2</sub>.  
*i Temair*] hi tem Bd ; a temair, &c., Ed HS<sub>2</sub> ; im temhair, &c., SS<sub>3</sub>V.

## ACHALL.

- 1 Achall ar aicec Temair,  
roscarsat óic a hEmain ;  
rocáined in tan atbath  
ainder gel Glain meic Carbad.
- 2 Ingen Chairpri dorochair, 5  
ingen d'Feidlim nói-chruthaig,  
do chumaid Eirc, ercetha raind,  
góita i ndígail Conchulaind.
- 3 Conall Cernach tue cend Eirc  
dochum Temrach im thráth teirt ; 10  
is trúag gním dorigned de,  
brissed cridi úair Aichle. A.
- 4 Duma Find, Duma na nDrúad,  
Duma Créidne, grúad fri grúad,  
Duma 'ma ndernad gleice glé 15  
Duma nEirc, Duma nAichle. A.
- 5 Tánccatar mathe Ulad  
im Chonchobar na curad ;  
rofersat graffaind ngil nglain  
d'Achall ar aicec Temair. A. 20
- a. 6 Duma nEirc, ní haichde cress,  
'sin druim fri Temraig aness,  
Eirc, is and tánic a ré,  
derbráthair álaind Aichle. A.

L B R Y H S S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>3</sub> V H<sub>2</sub>.      3. *ro cáined*] ra cóined L ; do cáinead Y.  
4. *ainder gel Glain*] in aindir geal S<sub>2</sub>.      5-12.] *quoted* SM III. 84.  
6. *ingen*] 7 S<sub>2</sub> ; is SM.      7. *ercetha*] ercdais S<sub>2</sub> ; æbda in SM.      *raind*] rind, &c., RHSS<sub>2</sub>.      8. *góita*] L ; gáodaæ R ; gæd, &c., cæt.      10. *dochum*] re tæb SM.      *im*] ria L.      11. *is trúag gním*] L ; is truag in gním SM. ;  
truag in gním, &c., cæt.      *dorigned*] doronad, &c., HS<sub>2</sub> ; dodechaidh SM.



## ACHALL.

Achall over against Temair,  
the youths from Emain loved her ;  
she was mourned when she died,  
the white bride of Glan, son of Carbad.

The daughter of Cairpri perished, 5  
the daughter of Fedelm Noichruthach,  
from grief for Erc, (provinces were filled with it),  
who was slain in vengeance for Cuchullin.

Conall Cernach brought the head of Erc  
to Temair about the hour of terce ; 10  
Sad was the deed was done by him,  
the breaking of the cold heart of Achall.

The Mound of Finn, the Mound of the Druids,  
the Mound of Creidne, cheek by cheek ;  
the Mound about which was fought the famous fight, 15  
the Mound of Erc, the Mound of Achall.

The nobles of Ulster came  
round Conchobar of the champions ;  
they held races bright and pure  
for Achall over against Temair. 20

The Mound of Erc (it was no narrow work)  
on the hill south of Temair ;  
Erc, it is there his time came,  
the comely brother of Achall.

*cridi*] cairde R.      *úair*] uar, &c., RBH.      13. *duma* (2)] is *duma* S<sub>2</sub>.  
14. *fri*] ar BR.      15. *mandernad*] madndernad R; moo andernadh H.  
16. *duma* (2)] is *duma* HSS<sub>2</sub>.      *nEirc*] Eirc *codd.*      *nAichle*]  
Aichle *codd.*      19. *ngil nglain*] gil glain, &c., RB; glice glain, &c., SS<sub>2</sub>.  
21. *aichde*] aicci H.      22. *sin*] is L; sa H.

- f* 7 Bráthir Find a hAlind úair, 25  
is Ailill a Cruachain chrúaid,  
Cairpre Niad a Temraig thall,  
diarbo hingen fíal Achall. . A.
- b* 8 Duma na nDrúad, fris aness 30  
Temair na rí, in rí-*g*-less,  
fri Temraig anair anall  
is and-sin atbath Achall. A.
- g* 9 'S andsin roadnacht in ben, 35  
ingen aird-rí na nGáedel,  
roclaided di in ráth-sa thall,  
and fúair a haided Achall. A.
- h* 10 Sé mná 's ferr robói ar bith-ché, 40  
tar éis Maire máthar Dé,  
Medb Sadb Sarait, ségda rand,  
Erc is Emer is Achall. A.
- d* 11 Óclach do Chairpre Nia Fer  
Eochu garb gérait Gáedel  
tarmairt co mbeth ní dia chlaind  
frisinn ingen, fri Achail. A.
- e* 12 Dobiur teist suaichnid iarsin 45  
for ingen Chairpri chrichid,  
ná frith a húair tháidi thall ;  
sech óc-mnáib áille Achall. A.
- p* 13 Guidim mac Dé, dorat meirg 50  
tar Meidb leth-deirg tar Meidb ndeirg  
tar Saidb tar Sarait tar Faind  
tar Gairb tar Eirc tar Achail, A.

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26. *a*] o R. 27. *a*] i BH. *Temraig*] Temair L; Temra R. 28. *diarbo*] diambo Y. 31. *Temraig*] Temair, &c., LYS<sub>2</sub>; Temra R. *anall*] adall L; annall S. 32. *andsin*] and L. 33. '*s and sin*] is and sin LS<sub>2</sub>; annsin YH; is and S. 35. *ro claided di*] di roclaided L; roclaidhedi R; roclaided, &c., YS<sub>2</sub>. 36. *and*] L; da *cæt*. 37. *robói*] dobói Y; dobí HS. 38. *Dé*] maic Dé S<sub>2</sub>; om. B. 39. *seгда*] séchda L; seda H. *rand*] L? raind RB; in roinn H; rind, &c., YSS<sub>2</sub>. 42. *Eochu*] Eochaid B. 45. *dobiur*] dobér, &c., HS; doĉ YS<sub>2</sub>. *iarsin*] iartain L. 46. *for*] L;

Brothers were Finn from cold Alend, 25  
and Ailell from stern Cruachan,  
of Cairpre Nia from Temair in that country,  
whose noble daughter Achall was.

The Mound of the Druids, south of it  
lay Temair of the Kings, the royal hold ; 30  
eastward of Temair yonder,  
it is there Achall died.

It is there the woman was buried,  
the daughter of the high Kings of the Gaels,  
for her was raised this rath on that spot ; 35  
there did Achall meet her death.

The six women that are the best that were in the world,  
after Mary the mother of God ;  
are Medb, Sadb, Sarait (noble portion),  
Erc and Emer and Achall. 40

A squire of Cairpre Nia Fer,  
Eochu the fierce, champion of the Gaels,  
attempted to have one of his children  
by the maiden, by Achall.

I give sure testimony thereon 45  
to the daughter of Cairpre . . . . .  
that a stolen hour with her was not to be had in that place ;  
Achall surpasses all damsels in beauty.

I pray the Son of God who brought decay  
on Medb Lethderg, on Medb Derg, 50  
on Sadb, on Sarait, on Fand,  
on Garb, on Erc, on Achall,

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dar RB ; ar *cæt.*      *crichid*] cruthaig (with vel *crichid superscr.*) L ; *critġ* R ;  
*criġġ* B ; *crichaig, &c., cæt.*      47. *na*] L ; *nach, &c., cæt.*      *a h-úair*] RB ;  
*úair* L ; *anuair, cæt.*      48. *óc-mndib*] *ocmna* R ; *ac mñ* H ; *mnáib* S<sub>2</sub>.  
49. *guidim*] *guidme* L.      *dorat*] *rorat* S ; *rad* Y.      *meing*] *merc* Y ; *mfeing*  
B ; *feing* R.      50. *tar . . . tar*] ar . . . ar YHSS<sub>2</sub>.      51. *tar . . . tar . . .*  
*tar*] ar . . . ar . . . ar YHSS<sub>2</sub>.      *Fáind*] *gáinn* (with vel *f superscr.*) H.  
52. *tar . . . tar . . . tar*] ar . . . ar . . . ar YHSS<sub>2</sub>.

- q 14 Co raib inad for nim nár  
do Chináed úa Artacán ;  
roftir rind-chert cech raind ; 55  
is é ic imthecht i nAchaill. A.
- c 15 Noco tart ar thalmain traig  
bad ferr im búar nó im graig ;  
no co r'alt i Temraig thall  
ben bad ferr indá Achall. A. 60
- i 16 A gillai geib m'ech it láim,  
na tí nech do m'imfórráin ;  
Gáidil for creich ocus Gaill ;  
it lúatha a n-eich tar Achaill. A.
- k 17 In t-inad atáit ar n-eich, 65  
robói caill trít ar cech leith ;  
tír ind écis Maine maill,  
nogairthe de ria nAchaill. A.
- l 18 Maraíd ráth Chonaire chain,  
maraíd ráth Chairpri chrichid ; 70  
ní mair Essa siu nó thall,  
ní mair Erc, ní mair Achall. A.
- m 19 Fogartach robói i nDind Ríg,  
ba flaith Fodla co find-gnám,  
fetatar Gáedil is Gaill 75  
guss in óen-fhir i nAchaill. A.
- n 20 Súaire in dremm dedgair data,  
cland Chernaig meic Diarmata ;  
gegnatar cúana cose  
im tháebu úara Aichle. A. 80

53-56] in L only. 58. bad] bid L. nó] nas HY; ná S; ina S<sub>2</sub>.  
59. r'alt] ro alt L. í] ar L. thall] truim S<sub>2</sub>. 60. ben bad] æn ben bo S<sub>2</sub>.  
inda] na S<sub>2</sub>. 61-64.] in L only. 61.] Three or four letters have been  
erased from L after geib. 66. ro béc] do bóí HS<sub>2</sub>. 67. ind écis] an eic  
is Y; indeach is S; fhinechais S<sub>2</sub>. 68. nó] L; di H; do cat. de] di RH.  
ria] re RBYH. 70. chrichid] cathaidh S<sub>2</sub>; crichaid Y; crichaigh S; crich

That there may be a place in high heaven  
for Cinaed ua Hartacain :  
he knows the rule of rhyme for every verse ; 55  
it is he that goes to and fro in Achall.

Never set foot on earth  
one that surpassed her in herds nor horses ;  
never was bred there in Temair  
a woman that surpassed Achall. 60

Boy, take my horse in thy hand ;  
let none come to trouble me ;  
the Gael and the Gall are on the foray ;  
swift are their horses across Achall.

The place where our horses are, 65  
there was a wood through it on every hand ;  
the land of the poet Mane the indolent,  
it was called from him before it was named Achall.

The rath of pure Conaire endures,  
the rath of Cairpri . . . . . endures ; 70  
Essa endures not, here or elsewhere,  
Erc endures not, nor Achall.

Fogartach was at Dind Rig ;  
he was a king of Fodla with doughty deeds ;  
the Gael and the Gall knew 75  
the valour of that single hero at Achall.

Pleasant the folk, brisk and cheerful,  
the clan of Cernach, son of Diarmait ;  
they have slain hosts till now  
round the cold flanks of Achall. 80

RBH. 71. *nó*] ná YSS<sub>2</sub>. 73. *i nDind*] anind Y. 74. *co*]na YHSS<sub>2</sub>.  
75. *fetatar*] *fegar*, &c., YS<sub>2</sub>; *fedhar* S. 76. *guss in óenfir*] L *gusanœnfer*,  
&c., YS *gusanœnfer* S<sub>2</sub>; *cusinaoinfer* H; *imanoenfer* R; *fri inœnfer* B. *i n-*] LB;  
im R; *co h-*, &c., *cœt*. 77. *dedgair*]; *deighfer* S<sub>2</sub>; *degdair*, &c., RBYH.  
79. *cuana*] *sluaga*, &c. YS. 80. *thæbu*] *tæbaib*, &c., RBH; *tæb* S<sub>2</sub>. *uara*]  
uar S<sub>2</sub>.

- o 21 Amlaib Átha Cliath cétaig  
 rogab rígi i mBeind Étair ;  
 tallus lúag mo dúane de,  
 ech d'echaib ána Aichle. A.
- 22 [Tánic co Temraig na ríg 85  
 Colum Cille cen imsním ;  
 cumdaighther leis eclais ann  
 'sin chnoc-sa a radnacht Achall.] A.

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81-84] *in L. only.*

84.] *ed. dechaib ana aicce L.*

Amlaib of Ath Cliath the hundred-strong,  
who gained the kingship in Bend Etair ;  
I bore off from him as price of my song  
a horse of the horses of Achall.

[There came to Temair of the kings  
Colum Cille free from sorrow ;  
by him a church is founded there  
on the hill where Achall was buried.]

85

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85-88.] in B (*marg.*) Y (*marg.*) H S<sub>3</sub>V *only.*





**NOTES.**



# NOTES.

## TEMAIR I.

THIS poem is translated in Petrie's *Tura*, p. 131, from BB 349. It is not found in L. There is another copy at BB 40 b (quoted as B<sub>2</sub>).

The metre is lax. Alliteration is irregular. Monosyllables rhyme together (13 and 14; 21 and 22; 25 and 26); monosyllables rhyme with trisyllables (9 and 10; 19 and 20; 23 and 24; 27 and 28): dissyllables rhyme together (11 and 12; 35 and 36; 39 and 40). A long vowel rhymes with a short (1 and 2). A slender vowel assonates with a broad (23 and 24.) Responses occur twice (3 and 4; 39 and 40).

3, 4. The sense of these lines ought to be: 'When did Temair Breg come to be called simply Temair?' I do not see what meaning 3 can have as it stands, and I suggest that for *bruig* should be read *Brig*, the accusative singular corresponding to *Breg*, from nominative *Bri*. The dative and accusative of this word are given by Windisch (Wörterb. 879) as *bri* or *brig*; but the long vowel in *brig* is irrational, and Stokes (Celt. Decl. 24) seems to be right in proposing to substitute *brig*. The lines would then mean, 'When did the name drop the *Breg*? when did the place come to be called Temair [instead of Temair Breg]?'

7. *n-úr*. As frequently happens in later Middle Irish, *co*, 'with,' is confounded with *co*, 'to,' and the noun is put in the accusative. *Núr* may be written for *núr* (so S<sub>3</sub> V); but *úr*, 'noble,' is attested by Metr., O'R; cf. O'Rahilly (ed. Dinneen), s. v. *úr-ghas*, *úr-mhac*.

5-7. As to these personages see LL 5 a 6, 4 b 27, 6 a 12; or the first pages of FM, or Keating, 114, 106, 121.

8. Cigal, leader of the Fomorians, is called *Gricenchos* LL 5 a 21; *Grigenchosach* FM anno 2530; *Glígarcos* BB 23 b 37; *Cichul Grigechlún* LL 169 b 10.

9, 10. The reading given in the text is that of the two best mss., and is certainly *lectio difficilior*.

On the origin of the Lupracans see SG ii. 563; they seem here to stand for the *áes síde*, who came to be confounded with the *Túatha Dé* (see Zimmer, Z d A xxxiii.

276 note): so that *líne Lupracán* may simply be put for *Túatha Dé*. This, however, would be inconsistent with the genealogy of the *Túatha Dé* given in BB 34 a 39, where they are traced to Japhet, whereas the Lupracans descend from Ham. It is expressly said that the *Túatha Dé* do not belong to 'devils and fairies,' *is follus nach do deamhnaib na do sídhaibh dóibh*: BB 35 a 31.

13-15. As to these five sages, see Petrie's *Tara*, p. 132 note; and MC iii. 61. The name *Tuan* is dissyllabic, as appears from the poem printed by K. Meyer, ZCP iii. 31.

15. Here and at 27 the rhyme shows that *cain* has a short vowel, and is therefore distinct from *cáin*, 'fair, kind.' So in *Móirthimcell Érenn* (ed. Hogan, 1901), stanzas 3, 11, 13, and in LL 33 b 23. O'R. has '*cain*, chaste, devout, sincere,' &c. Meyer ACL renders by 'fair.'

*Fiachu Cendfindan*: see FM anno 3278; Keating 132; LL 8 a 26.

25. *Druim Cáin*: cf. LL 13 b 30.

26. *a for ina*.

28. *Allod* was one of the *Tuatha Dé*, brother of the *Dagda*: BB 34 a 51.

29. *Cathair Crofínd*: cf. Temair iv. 20.

31. *Tea* is a dissyllable here and in Temair ii. 17, iii. 106; in line 34 it must count as a monosyllable.

39. *S<sub>2</sub>* avoids the hiatus after *uirri* by reading *a n-anmanda* for *anmand*. But a similar hiatus occurs in 42: and cf. Temair iii. 98, 129, 167. For other cases see Todd Lectures, vol. vii.: Rath Esa, 4, 53, 67; Almu, 5, 88; Ath Fadat i. 8; Ailech i. 4, 15, 21, 37, 52, 58, 64, 66, 91; Ailech ii. 34, 38, 40, 57, 64; Bend Étair i. 14, 18, 28, 53, 65; Bend Étair ii. 8, 26, 60, 98, 102, 105.

42. *nirsam*: for the form see Stokes, Neo-Celtic verb substantive (Phil. Soc. Trans. 1885), p. 246, and *nirsat*, IT 4.

*éone*. The salmon symbolises the art of the poet and seer: so Finn mac Cumail is styled *in t-éó óir* (IT iv. 2531). Fintan calls himself 'the salmon not of one stream only,' because after voyaging from east to west, he survived from the time of the Deluge to the sixth century after Christ: MC iii. 59.

## TEMAIR II.

This poem is translated in Petrie's *Tara*, p. 133, from BB. It is attributed in BRSS<sub>3</sub> to Cinæth ua hArtacan (not, as Petrie says, to Cuan ua Lochain), who died in 974, according to AU and Tigernach; in 973, according to FM.

The metre is highly elaborate. In each stanza the second and fourth lines rhyme; the rhyming words always contain an equal number of syllables, whether one, two, or three. In the first stanza and in lines 45-72 all four lines rhyme, the final words of the first and third lines in each case agreeing with one another, but differing from the second and fourth in number of syllables. In every stanza there are either rhymes, responses, or echoes between 1 and 2, and between 3 and 4: thus, in 25-28, *cathraig, cáim*, are answered by *rathmair, áib*; and *-toirged, dáil*, by *-oirged, gráin*. The only exceptions are 15, 16; 17, 18 (proper names); 39, 40 (proper names). Alliteration is general, but is absent from 18, 24, 34, 50, not counting lines which contain proper names.

3 and 5. *ingen Lugdach, ben Gede*: that is, Tea: see the prose version, RC xv 277 and cf. LL 159 a 2. Gede Ollgothach appears to be here identified with Erimon: though he is placed nearly 500 years later by FM A.M. 3960: cf. Petrie, 153. So in Temair i. 32, Tea is called wife of Erimon: cf. LL 13 b 29: *Tea imorro ingen Lugdach meic Itha. Is í thuc Herimón dar esi Odba, ocus tilach nothogfad in Herind ina tindscra. Issed caibchi rothogastar, Druim Cáin in tilach hí sen .i. Temair, Tea mur, múr Teá ingine Lugdach meic Itha.*

4. According to P O'C *tul-* in composition means (1) 'sudden,' (2) 'bare, naked, exposed.' Temair was not as yet built over and fortified. *lot-báig* is not a good rhyme to *tócbáil*; but cf. 50, 52 *erchrede—trén-Tephi*.

7. *dréim n-áine*, 'ascent of splendour.' R's reading *ndaéine* is favoured by the alliteration, but is unsupported by other mss., and *daéine* is not a sufficiently emphatic word.

8. This line seems to mean that a soldier's grave was the *ἀθλον* for which men played the game of war round Tara.

11. O'Reilly has *tuinneamh*, 'death.'

13, 14. Apparently Erimon kept his wife a prisoner, but I find no other trace of such a story.

16. *atnóimed*: from *atáibim*.

19, 20. L's reading can hardly be right; but in any case the meaning is highly doubtful. Alliteration requires that *mór* should be a noun; it can hardly be the

abstract neuter, which means 'a great number'; for then we should have *mór*, not *in mór*. But if it is masculine, who is meant? *Mergech* occurs as a proper name, Oss. iv. 94.

In 20, L's *reilged* (with *ní rom*) if it stand for *ro-eilged* would satisfy alliteration better than *relgech*: but (1) it does not respond so well to *mergech*; (2) the sense would be more obscure than ever.

17. *tuilltech*. O'R gives the meaning 'floody,' as if the word were derived from *tuile*. More probably it is derived from *tuilled*, 'increase,' as *tuillmech* (H's reading) from *tuillem*; the latter form occurs in the *Acallam na Senbrach* with the meaning 'bountiful': IT iv. Index.

21. *Ingen Foraind*. Two other 'daughters of Pharaoh' appear in the annalistic history: (1) *Scota*, wife of *Niul*: Keating, 157, 164; (2) *Scota*, wife of *Miled*: Keating, 177. I can find no mention of *Tephi* and *Camson* (or *Canton*) except in this poem and the corresponding prose, where *Camson* is said to be son of *Cathmenn*, king of Britain (RC xv. 277, from R).

22. *luaded leirg*: cf. LL 194 a 45, *do laim Indich, luaded leirg*. SnR 8207, *luadft lergga luathlasra*. *Leirg* is a 'cognate accusative': cf. *réided Temraig*, Tem. iv. 26.

23. *cúird*. Some such meaning as 'labourer' seems to be required: P O'C has *córd*, 'ploughman.'

28. *asnoirged cech gním*, 'who used to destroy every deed,' i.e. 'do all deeds of destruction,' *gním* being a cognate accusative. The pron. infix. seems otiose.

29. *rín* here and *rínad* in 44 seem to refer to the name *Tephi-rín* (60).

31. *fúisain* I take to be equivalent to *fon innas-sin*: or it may mean 'thereafter,' as at IT 2. ii. 1714, 1837, or simply 'under this rampart.' *Digna* seems to be an adjective: cf. *Wi s. v*. But it would perhaps be better to read *dignae* (g. s.), and in 32 *signae* (g. pl.).

32. L's reading *mo* (for *immo*) may be right: 'they built sepulchres round queens.'

34. If we are to read *tréthi*, 'ignorance, weakness,' the assonance to *Tephi* is false.

39. *cin ó*. Petrie makes *Cino Bachtir* a proper name; but the prose has simply *Bachtir*.

For the omission of *ro* cf. Ailech ii. 5, 35 (Todd. Lect. vii. 42, 44). LL 152 a 18; SnR 6781. SnR 7409 should probably read *Rí rosder Teclai ndiascaig* (omitting *ndil*).

42. *forsmélad*, 2 fut. of *formelim* with infix. rel. pronoun. For the special meaning of *múrad*, cf. IT iv. 3985.

43. *tólach* is not a good assonance to *doronad*: some texts read *tólad*, a word which occurs in SnR 1434, *fri tolad mordreuing*; but this reading I cannot translate.

47. *ón*. According to Stokes, ZCP iv. 364, *on*, 'blemish,' is short in quantity; if so, this must be a different word, for the metrical rules require that it should rhyme with *Camsón*, *marb-són*.

48. *cid mór cid mín*, 'whether the restitution were great or small,' i.e. whether he got compensation along with his daughter, or not.

49. *Erlam* is generally 'a patron saint'; here it is applied to a heathen deity as the epithet *erchrede* implies. LL reads *Camson*. Petrie 135, note, identifies Etherun with the British deity Taran.

51, 52. The story is obscure; it appears only that Tephí met her death in Ireland, and that Camson sent her body back to Spain, where her tomb was raised. *barr Britain*, i.e. Camson: see note on 21. *glethe* seems to be an adj. cognate to *glé*.

58. The ordinary meaning of *etal* seems out of place here.

59. *marblaig*: P O'C has *mairbleach* 'stupid, numb, debilitated': this may be the same word with the meaning 'inanimate.' Or it may be a compound adj., *marb-lag*, 'weak in death.'

60. *-tarblaig* for *-tarblaing*, 'alighted.' The phrase seems to be a metaphor to express that the name Tephírun settled upon the place.

63. *táidlius trumma*, 'approach in importance': *cutrumma*, 'equal importance, equality.'

67. Petrie reads *cech benn nach birda*, but the analogy of 65 makes it more natural to regard *bennach* as an adj.

68. With the exception of 24, the fourth line of every stanza has an alliteration, so that H's *irirgna* is preferable to LB's *forirgna*.

69-72. As this stanza occurs in LL only, I print it as it stands in the ms.

69. Cf. prose *dindsenchas* (RC xv. 278): Sic in prouerbio Scotico reperitur, ut dicitur *Temair na tuaití* et *Temair in toighí*, etc. This refers to Cormac, s.v. *Temair*, where occurs the gloss: *temair na duath .i. grianan no tulach. temair in tige .i. grianan*.

71. *anai*, g. of *ana*, 'riches,' ACL.

74. *nith co neim*: literally 'a fight with valour'; the phrase stands in vague apposition to the preceding clause.

## TEMAIR III.

THIS poem, which is not found in L, is attributed in RYHGSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> to Cuan ua Lochain (*ob.* 1026), in BV to Cinæth ua hArtacan (*ob.* 974). It is edited in Petrie 143 from H.

The metre is not of a strict type: long vowels rhyme with short in 12, 28, 38, 70; another loose rhyme is *lecht, commáidset* (55). Alliteration is general, but not regular. There are no internal assonances with the exceptions (probably accidental) of 64, 104, 184.

10. *rosilaig: sílaim* is used metaphorically of spreading the faith (see Wi); of diffusing legend, *ro-sílad a senehas*, LL 196 a 57: so here *sílaigim* means 'put in circulation, publish.' Or we may read *ro-s-ilaig*, 'multiplied.'

On the Psalter of Tara see Zimmer ZdA xxxv. 121.

14. *inbir* is the reading best supported by the mss., and the slender vowel is required by the rhyme. If it is sound, it is probably an adjective, derived from *bir*, 'spear,' as *inshir*, 'manly,' M Mcr. Nominatives stand in place of accusatives throughout the stanza.

22. *do ráith*. The length of the *á* in this phrase is proved by this passage: cf. PH 4658, IT i. 179. The varieties of meaning seem to be:—

(1) 'together': here and IT i. 136, 22 *Conchobar ann cetanus ina charput ocus Dectiri a siur ar a belaid do raith*: cf. PH 8014.

(2) 'altogether, completely': *mine tesctar do raith on churp in ball-sin* PH 4225; *co rusindarba dorraith as a fáithius*, PH 4192, cf. 4658; IT ii. 1, line 197.

(3) after negatives, 'at all': *ní cluinter din gár-b-thoraind-sin acht lanbec do ráith* IT i. 179.

Atkinson PH, p. 21, renders by 'at once, immediately.'

23. *crúach* here seems to denote a cairn marking territorial boundaries; or the meaning may be 'every province under corn-rick,' i.e. 'fertile in corn.'

24. *traiged*. Petrie translates 'rood.' The *túath* is equivalent to the *trichacét*: see MC i. xcii.

25. The mss. are divided between the readings *trichait cét* and *trichtaib cét*, neither of which can well be right. If we adopt the former, we have the phrase *tricha ar trichait-cét*, which is meaningless; or, if it means anything, must be a circumlocution for 'thirty-one baronies'; the other reading which is adopted in the text would imply that each province had thirty baronies. But, apart from the tautological mode of expression, the number would be wrong. According to the poem quoted by O'Curry from H 3. 18 (Battle of Magh Leana, 107, note), Meath had 18,



Connaught 30, Ulster 35, Leinster 31, Munster 70 ; total, 184. Giraldus, quoted MC i. xcvi., gives the number as 176. Keating 93 makes it 185. I suggest that the true reading here is *tricha ar tri óictaib*: the abbreviation  $\tau\rho\iota\kappa\omicron\iota\kappa\iota\tau$  might easily, under the influence of *trichtaib-cét* in the next line, be wrongly expanded into *trichait cé* or *trichtaib cé*. We should thus obtain  $30 + 150 = 180$ , a number half way between the 176 of Giraldus and the 184 of the anonymous poet. Considering what a favourite number 150 is with Irish writers, the mode of expressing 180 in verse seems not unnatural.

33. *glaine glac*. Hostages denote peace and 'purity of palms' in contrast to the blood-stained hands of war: cf. note on Achall 19.

38. *Cros Fergussa*: see Petrie 144, note 9.

*Rostarfas*: the infix. pron. is otiose, but RB's reading *tarfas . . . baile ita* involves an awkward tautology in the next line.

40. *etorro* is 'between it and . . .' This use of *etir* in composition with the plural, instead of the singular, form of the third personal pronoun is similar to the anticipative plural in the idiom *coranoatar ocus Dubthach*, '[he] and Dubthach came,' illustrated by Zimmer KZ xxxii. 153.

Zimmer quotes from LL 103 b 40 *darala eturru ic imbert fhidchilli 7 Fergus*. The idiom is fairly common in the case of *etorro*: for example, FB § 26, *doberat triamnai don tig ocus nír thúargaibset cid co tísad géth etorro ocus talmain*, 'so much that the wind could go between [it] and the earth.' Toch. Bech. 178, 13 *eturru ocus fraig*, 'between him and the wall.' IT i. 175, *etarro ocus in sluag*, 'between [the Exalted, in *ordnide*] and the host.' LL 106 a 21 *eturru 7 cranna* 'between her [Ness] and the weapons.' So in LL 136 a 46, 135 b 36; BB 4 a 20; MR 128, 17; PH 43.

On the other hand, in IT i. 208, 17, we have *Fergus etir ocus fraigid, Conall Cernach etir ocus crand, Lugaid Reoderg etir ocus adart*.

41. On the slaughter of these maidens, see Tigernach, anno 222, cited by Petrie, p. 36.

42. The 'crooked dealing' is the false judgment of Lugaid mac Con: see Petrie, 219.

49. *Corus Cind Conchulainn*: called in the prose version, RC xv. 283, *Corus cind 7 meide Conculainn*.

On the monuments of Cuchulainn's head and shield at Tara, see Petrie, 226. *Corus* seems to denote the extent of ground occupied by his head: for *corus* in the sense of 'proper amount, or extent,' see BL Glossary (*corus bíd*): MC index (*corus a airliis*).

53. For Mal and Midna, see Petrie, 227. Conall Cernach found them playing hurley with Cuchulinn's head, and killed them.

54. *tigba*: cf. MR 172, 2, *cia d' ard-chlannaib Hir fuair termann ar thiugba, nd mairius gan marbad?* and BL s. v. *tiugbeo*.

56. Petrie reads *commaoideacht*, but without authority.

57. *Long na Lóech*: called in the prose *Long na mBan*, and *Tech Midhuarta*, RC xv. 282. *Long* and *barc* are both used metaphorically of buildings. *Long ingine Foraind* and *Barc Crimthainn Nia Nair* are enumerated among the remains of Brug on the Boyne, RC xv. 292: cf. ACL s. v.

64. *fri comaidces* seems to mean 'in community of misfortune (blindness)': *comaidces* usually means 'neighbourhood': O'R; TT; LL 135 b 21, etc.

65. *tes-tiar*. The prose version has *Dall teas 7 Dorchæ tiar* (RC xv. 282), and Petrie accordingly punctuates *Dall tes, tiar Dorcha*. But this order of words is unnatural, and the bearings of the different spots would be obscure. It seems likely that the prose redactor has misunderstood the passage.

73. *Lecht ind abaicc*: see Petrie, 180.

74. *Mael, Bloc, Bluicne* are named as the three druids of Conn in *Baile an Sedil*, ap. O'Curry, Lect. 620. As to the stones called after *Bloc* and *Bluicne*, see Petrie, 179.

*borb a ciall*: that is, their paganism is folly to the Christian.

76. *Mál* of *Macha* is identified by Petrie, 178, with *Mal* son of *Rochraide* whom *Tigernach* records as reigning 33 years in *Emain* [*Macha*]: cf. FM 106, 107.

81, 85. As to the Synods, see Petrie, 171 *seq.*; and for the story of *Beniat* (or *Benen*), see Petrie, 176.

82. *Fál na Temrach*, i.e. the *Lia Fáil*; see Petrie, 159, 179; O'Curry Lect. 620, and the references given, RC xv. 288.

89. *Ráth na Ríg*: see Petrie, 152 *seq.*

For *Cu* and *Cethen*, see the prose version, RC xv. 285.

94. *Ráth Loegairi*: see Petrie, 169.

96. *Fírén Fiadat*, i.e. S. Patrick: so in *Echtra Conda 5* (Wi Gr., p. 120), he is called simply *fírén*. The readings of R and B may be corruptions of *fiadu Fiadait*, 'the witness of the Lord.'

98. *primit*. This seems to be the singular form assumed by *Windisch* (*Wörterbuch*) and *Atkinson* (*Glossary to PH*): *HSS<sub>2</sub>* have the plural, but their reading involves an awkward hiatus.

100. *ba sár búaid*: perhaps rather 'it was a high excellence,' because houses built on this pattern were lucky, according to the prose version, RC xv. 284.

109. *Ciarnait*. This story is shortly told, and lines 109-120 are quoted in Eg. 1782, 44 b 2; see Meyer, *Otia Merseiana*, ii. 75.

125. The reading is uncertain, the text of both R and B being evidently corrupt; Y is illegible. The prose version gives the names as *Liaig*, *Derc dub*, and *Tipra bó finde*, RC xv. 281. Perhaps the first name should be *liaig dail duib duirb*, 'the healer of the venomous black chafer': for the meaning of *duirb*, cf. MR 120, where O'Donovan renders *brain doirbi duba*, 'ravenous black ravens.' The modern name for a centipede (?) is *darb-daol*, and the insect is regarded as venomous: see Hyde, *An Sgéuluidhe Gaodhalach*, iii. 230 (where the word is spelt *dardaol*). *Tuath línde* may then mean 'water-witch': cf. RC xv. 311, *ban-tuathuib*.

128. *sílad*. The verb is commonly used of disseminating knowledge, &c.: cf. note on 10; here we seem to have an extension of this use: 'to spread [the fame of].'

131. *Líeg*. This name is attested by the Book of Armagh, quoted by Petrie, 167.

135. *fo dechair*. The prose writer says: *di tipraid indsin Adlaic indara n-óí 7 Diadlaic aroile acht ní uil deochair eturra* (RC xv. 284), which seems rather meaningless. Perhaps he understood *fodechair* as an adj., 'little different.'

140. *a for ina*. On the *deisel*, see Petrie, 221.

143. *cochma*: Corm. p. 47, has *cochme*, .i. *ballan*, 'drinking vessel'; but this does not fit the passage. P'O'C gives "*cochma* a contraction for *comhchama* [*cochuma*?] 'the parity of one thing with another.'"

150. For this distribution of joints according to the rank of the guests, cf. *Laws* i. 48; ii. 232; v. 109: and IT iii. 188.

155. Does this mean that people of consideration slept on regular couches as contrasted with straw litter which would serve for the commonalty, and would be burnt as it became unfit for use?

In the *Crith Gablach* the number of beds appropriate to different ranks is sometimes specified: see MC iii. 495, 499.

158. *rán* may be identical with O'R's *rón*, 'strong,' 'fat.'

159. *máil na cethra*; possibly 'the hornless of the beasts'; but more probably some part of the animal is meant—perhaps the head, stripped of horns and skin.

162. *fianaide féig*. R has *luamuire leir*: cf. IT iv. index, *luamaire*, 'pilot.' Pilots are classed with the *fodána*, *Laws* v. 108.

164. *dliged dorn* should apparently be construed together, 'due of fists.'

165. Cf. Laws v. 108.

169. For *rigthech*, *rigthecha*, as pl. of *rig*, *rige*, see BL Gloss.

173. *Muiridin* seems to be the same as the modern *muirighin*, 'a burden,' 'a family,' O'R. These people were part of the *familia* of the *Mal Mide*.

R has the curious variant *maroighi dar mur maighe*, partly supported by S<sub>2</sub>, which reads *múr* for *mál*. *maroighi* is presumably the plural of *maróc*, gl. *hilla*, Ir. Gl.

174. *cairemain is cirmairi* are classed together, Laws v. 106.

179. *uruscla* may be connected with *ursclaide*, 'defending' O'D Suppl. (Atkinson BL Glossary renders by 'act of smiting' (?): but the passages which he quotes from MR prove that the true sense is 'defending' or 'warding off.') The meaning might then be that the maids who served the feast were courteously treated.

*Cen ach*, perhaps for *cen acht*, 'without doubt': cf. IT iv. index, s. v. *ach*.

182. The reference is to the battle of Cul Dreimne, FM 555.

187. The story of S. Ruadan appears to be intended: see Petrie, 125.

## TEMAIR IV.

This poem is edited in Petrie 188 from H. It is attributed in L to "Cormac the Poet": in RBYHGS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> to Cinaeth ua hÁrtacán.

The metre is intricate and regular. (a) Every line ends with a dissyllable; the particles *no* and *ro* (17, 57) do not count metrically with the verb they precede; in 95 there is prodelision of the *a* in *atbera*. In each stanza (b) 2 and 4 assonate; (c) either the final words of 1 and 3 are echoed in 2 and 4, or there is internal assonance (response), single or double, between 1 and 2, 3 and 4; or there are both echo and response (e.g. 23 and 24, 59 and 60). There is, however, this difference between the treatment of 1 and of 3: 1 is echoed in 2 only ten times in 28 stanzas, whereas 3 is echoed in 4 in all cases but five, viz., 19, 35, 39, 51, 67: in each of these cases 3 has an imperfect assonance with 2 and 4. (d) There is an imperfect assonance between 1 and 2 and 4: that is, the last syllable only of 1 assonates with the last syllable of 2 and 4, while these two have a dissyllabic assonance between themselves. The only exceptions are 73 and 89: in each of these cases 1 is echoed in 2. In 10 cases out of 28 there is a similar assonance between 3 and 2 and 4. (e) Alliteration is general but not regular: about 22 lines are without it.

1-4. The first stanza is a pious reflection on the transient nature of the glory which the poem celebrates.

2. This line is quoted in this form by O'Dav. p. 72, s. v. *comol*. *Caire* is here, perhaps, 'brittleness,' not 'faultiness': see ACL, *car*, *caire*. So Chaucer speaks of "false worldes brotelnesse."

5, 6. For *rofaíth*, *roscaích*, L has the readings *atchiu*, *dechliu*, which I cannot explain.

*road*. A dissyllable is required; the word seems to be the intensive of *ád*, 'prosperity,' the long vowel being reduced by the influence of the accent on the prefix. The same word seems to be contained in *Carn húi Néit* 10 (BB 375 a 5); but the meaning of that passage is obscure to me.

14. The line must end in a dissyllable so that L's *blad blait* can hardly be right. Probably *bodb slait* was written *badblait*, and a wrong division gave rise to *blait*. *Tara* is compared to a tree trunk whose branches are armed men.

*forglíd*, the reading of all mss. but L and G, does not alliterate, and spoils the image.

19. *bró bága*. In such descriptive tags the noun frequently does not follow the case of the word with which it is in apposition; *bága* is written for *báge*, as at LL 57 a 42.

For the metaphor, cf. FB 27 *rongab imbrith brón*; FB 52 *bráo mara* (?) Ds. Ailech i. 26 *ba bráu borbheng*, and see Zimmer ZCP i. 74.

24. *rún* here, as in Temair ii. 29, seems to denote a secret *place*; but what the line really means I cannot say.

26. *réided Temraig*: cf. in *chaillech reided Currech*, LHy i. 126: so *ri na rig réided rótu*, FM 907 (p. 576) (O'D. translates 'make smooth,' referring the form to *réidim* not *riadaim*).

33-36. The meaning of this stanza is very doubtful: *tairchellaim* is a verb whose signification is not precisely ascertained, but it certainly sometimes has the sense 'restrain': I take the first two lines of the stanza to mean that Tara never suffered from rulers who were either reckless and violent, or calculating and severe.

*báise burba*, literally 'folly of fierceness,' *burba* being written for *buirbe*, to respond to *cumga*; so *garga*, *arda* for *gairge*, *airde*: cf. note on metre above (c) and (d).

*cumga* is Wi.'s 'cumce Enge, Noth': *cumga menmannraid*, SnR 6306, 'stinginess.'

35. The metre requires a response to *cubat*, and the reading *robecc* must therefore be ruled out. *Rubach* may be identical with *ropach*, *robach*, for which Atkinson (BL) gives the meanings 'striking, assault, violence.'

*terba* has the meaning 'prevention, hindrance,' in IT iii. 338 (Stokes renders 'separation'). O'Dav. 120 glosses *terbadh* by *innarbadh no delugudh*: cf. IT ii. 2, 228, *dia tairmese no dia terbaid*. The meaning and derivation of the word are made clear by a passage in the Annals. Under the year 806, FM have *Terbadh aighae oenaigh Tailten dia Sathairn co ná raacht each na carpat la hAedh mac Néill .i. muintir Tamhlachtae do darorba tre sárúghadh tearmaind Tamhlachta Maelruain do Uíbh Néill*.

The corresponding passage in AU 810 gives *derbaid* for *terbadh* and *dodrorbai* for *do darorba*.

Strachan, ZCP iii. 481, refers the forms in AU to *di-ror-fen*. The word may here bear the meaning 'interference, annoyance.'

39. *findairbert*: a trisyllable is required to respond to *imairdere*, so that L's *in airbirt* cannot stand.

*erand* is here used metaphorically for 'warrior,' like *gas*, *bile*, etc.

41. The text is doubtful. Metrical considerations (a) and (d) above, are in favour of Y's reading, if we divide as in the text: I take *riad* to be the verbal noun which means 'riding, travelling,' &c., applied here to the coming and going of weapons through the palace.

44. *tri chóicait imda*. The word *imda* means (1) 'bed' (Wi); (2) 'bedroom' (*Liadain and Curithir*, ed. Meyer, p. 14); (3) here it must denote some sort of compartments dividing the great hall. The word is similarly used in the account of the *Suidigud Tige Míchuarda*: see Petrie, 197 *seq.* Compare further the passages collected by O'B. Crowe in his edition of *Táin Bó Fráich* (Proc. R. I. A., 1870), p. 160, and add LBr. 130 b 41. The number of men in each *imda* is given by some texts as 50, by others as 150. There is the same variety of reading in the *Suid. T. Mích.* Adopting the number 150 in each of the 150 *imdas*, we get 22,500; add to this 50 men in each of the 150 *airels* (line 51) or 7500 more, and we have a total of 30,000, which corresponds to the number given by L. in line 100 of this poem.

The *airel* seems to be another sort of compartment; according to *Suid. T. Midch.* (LL 29 a), there were *tri choicait imdad isin taig, 7 tri coicait fer in each imdai, 7 tri coicait airel esib, et coica cach airel*. I have not found the word except in these two passages (of which one is very probably drawn from the other) and in a passage in the *Coir Anmann* (IT iii. 390) which is the work of an etymologist.

45. *tri choicait*. *Wi* gives *coica* as masc., but cf. Pedersen KZ xxxv. 429.

*co lainidib*. The metrical structure (see (ā) above) is adverse to L's *col-laine* (i.e. *co láine*). *Lam* seems here to mean the crescent of gold worn on the head (see *Wi*) rather than 'sword-blade' as at MR 78.

46. *ar bruidin*, 'engaged in brawl,' like *ar meisce*, 'drunk.' The reading *ar mbruiden* (Petrie adopts *ar bruiccin* from H) is excluded by the rhyme.

Fighting was not allowed in Tara during the *Feis Temrach*, see Ds of Loch Garman, 61-68 (LL 196 b 21).

47. *ba sé*. I follow LL; the other mss. give the more correct *ba hé* both here and at 56. So in *Sliab Mairge*, ii. 9 (216 b 24) LL has *ba sed*; cf. Pedersen, Asp. i. Irsk, 133.

50. *taitned ór*: the reading *taitnem ór* is excluded by the prosody which requires a response to *slog*.

52. *airel* must be regarded as nom.: *Suid. T. Midch.* (LL 29 a 8) also has *coica cach airel*. *Imglain* is written *metri gratia* for *implan*.

53. Petrie, following apparently L, translates, 'without any sparingness.' I cannot find any authority for this meaning of *condail*. It seems to be infinitive of *condailim* (see BL Glossary) as *fodil*, *fodail*, of *foddilim*.

62. O'R has *fonsa*, 'troop, band,' and M'Alp. *fonsair*, 'trooper': *fonsa* also means 'hoop, band' (O'R and BL).

P O'C gives *fonsa*, 'hoop, circle for a barrel': *fonsaire*, 'hooper, cooper.' I suspect that O'R's 'troop' and M'Alp.'s 'trooper' have arisen from misreading 'hoop' (in manuscript) as 'troop.' Here the barrel-staves seem to be put for the casks themselves.

63. *soichli* is gen. dependent on *solus*.

64. *dá secht*: so iii. 60, *co ceithri doirsib deac*.

67. Perhaps we should divide *ba mét mór, mór in lán-sin*, but the repetition of *mór* would be awkward.

69. *A n-ól n-uidech*. L has *niag*, so we should perhaps read *a n-ól n-uag*: the metre is equally good: for the dissyllable *ól*, cf. 87. In 68, also, we might read *cét ól 'sind óul-sin*, which would agree with the *cet n-ool inna dabaig* of *Suid. T. Midch.* (Petrie 198). But in 66 *ól* must be a monosyllable.

71. *don airem*. The response *dálem* is against L's reading, *ind árim*. If, however, this is right, it must be the 'adverbial case' found in *ind uair*, *ind innas*, etc.; *Wi* 634 a.

For *dimbraig*, 'ἀπρακτοί, empty-handed,' cf. SnR 3549: *Ní dimraig lotar dia tír*.

74. *toga a tuile*, literally, 'choice of their plenty.'

77. *coica* for *coice*.

80. *rógach*. The long vowel is required by the response to *tólach*. P O' C has *raghach*, 'merry, cheerful, pleasant.'

81. *ránda*, if correct, is related to *rán* as *firda* to *fír*, *mórda* to *mór*. But several mss. have *rámnda*, *ramnda*, etc.; we must then take the word to be the verbal noun of *rámnaim*, 'I row,' O'R; and *rectaire ránda* to mean 'boatswain.'

82-84. *lasin . . . la*: the meaning seems to be that fifty stewards were in attendance on the king, and fifty lackeys in attendance on fifty champions. I assume this meaning for *riglach*: O'R renders the word, 'old hag, grey-bearded old man.'

86. *fáel*, 'wolf': metaph. for 'warrior,' like *cú*, *bethir*, &c.: cf. LL 8 b 15 *ba fuilech fael i cath Maige Tured tiar*; BB 58 b 8 *a torchair in fael fossaig*.

87. Since in this poem all lines end in dissyllables, *óul* must here be scanned as in Old-Irish: see Strachan, Deponent Verb 557, note 2: *doud* in 88 is therefore also a dissyllable; consequently L's *ar na hobbad* cannot stand, though it is not easy to see how this reading arose.

90. Cf. BB 19 b 11 *ni roibe læch bu lia*, 'there was no hero who had a larger following'; but 89 is obscure to me.

91. *fuirged*. *Fuirigim* means both 'I wait,' and 'I keep waiting,' Wi, PH. L's *ban airmech* seems to be corrupt, but may conceal the true reading: for *eirned* in 92 (L's reading) has the support of LL 29 a 8 *teora míli cech lái noerned Cormac*.

94-95. The change of number from *saigtis* to *atbera* may be explained by regarding *saigtis* as relative to *fíled* and *ceud-drong* as nominative to *atbera*.

97. *i ndálaib*, literally, 'in divisions,' *κατὰ μέρος*: cf. Liad. and Cur. 24 *ni cráidfed frim Cuirithir do dálaib cada ndénainn*.

99. *árim*: for this form of the nom. cf. LL 3 b 46, *arim al-long tri longa*.

100. I follow L's reading: cf. note on 44.

107. As to Cormac's parentage see RC xiii. 455; SG ii. 286, 355, 534. His mother's name is variously given as Etan, Achtan, or Echtach.

109. As *siriud* answers to *ciniud* it cannot be referred to *strim*. I can make nothing of the word.

109. *Solam*. The writer of the *Suidigud Tige Tenrath*, which in LL follows this poem, also had the comparison between Cormac and Solomon before his mind. He writes (LL 29 a 10): "There came to the king Gauls and



Romans, Franks and Frisians, and Lombards and Scots, Saxons and Welsh and Picts; for all came to him with gold and silver, and horses and four-wheeled chariots. They all came to Cormac, for there was none in his time that was more famous than he in his bounty, and in honour, and in knowledge, except Solomon,\* son of David.' Even if we had not the direct reference to Solomon, we should be reminded of the description in 1 Kings ix. and x., where the Kings of Egypt and Tyre and Arabia vie with the Queen of Sheba in doing honour to Solomon:—

“So King Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth for riches and for wisdom. And all the earth sought to Solomon to hear his wisdom which God had put in his heart. And they brought every man his present, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and garments, and armour, and spices, horses, and mules, a rate year by year. And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen.”—1 Kings x. 23–26.

It is possible, I think, that a similar comparison with Solomon's House and Temple may have influenced the description of the Hall of Tara in certain points of detail. Thus it is asserted (Temair iv. 100) that the household (*tellach*) of Tara amounted to 30,000—a figure which staggers even the robust faith of O'Curry (MC iii. 7). It may be taken from 1 Kings v. 13, where it is said that to build the Temple “king Solomon raised a levy out of all Israel; and the levy was thirty thousand men.” Again, the height of the Hall of Tara is given as thirty cubits (iv. 36): that was also the height of the Temple (1 Kings vi. 3). The length of the latter was, however, only sixty cubits, whereas the length of the Hall of Tara is put at 700 feet; according to Petrie, 185, this corresponds roughly with the actual length of the remains identified by him as the *Tech Midchuarda*, which measure 759 feet. It is to be noted that at iv. 36 the Biblical ‘cubit’ is used as the measure of length for the Irish palace. So also the loan-word *caindelbrai* (iv. 60) recalls the ten ‘candlesticks of pure gold’ (candelabra aurea) of 1 Kings vii. 49. Take again the description of the drinking cups in Cormac's house (iv. 73), “nine times fifty cups; except what was carbuncle pure and strong, all was gold and silver.” Solomon was still more magnificent—“All king Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were of pure gold; none were of silver”—1 Kings x. 21.

Perhaps from the same point of view one may find an explanation of the enigmatical lines, *ní frith dún amail Temraig; ba sí rún belaig betha*, iv. 23, 24. The phrase *rún belaig betha*, ‘secret of the road of life,’ can only have a religious meaning; but what is its appropriateness as applied to Tara? So far from its containing any *arcantum* of the Christian religion, Tara is represented as a stronghold of paganism; it was ultimately destroyed, according to

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\* Singer, ZdA xxiii. NF 184 quotes from Konrad's *Rolandstied*: “Sit Salomôn erstarp sone wart nie so grôz hêrschaft noh newirdet niemer mêre [as in Charlemagne's reign].” He adds: “Konrad überträgt auch sonst Züge von Salomon auf einen von ihm verherrlichten Mann.”

iii. 187, "because of the sorrow of the people of God in its halls." But the Temple of Solomon had its sacred *arcanum*, the Ark of the Covenant. It may be that iv. 24 is merely an attempt to claim, in vague terms, a similar sanctity for Tara.

The parallel between Cormac's Palace and the House of Solomon meets us again in the abstract of Biblical history which begins on fol. 109 of the Lebor Brecc. Thurneysen has shown that this document is in the main a prose redaction of the *Saltair na Rann* (RC vi. 99). The description of Solomon, his house and the state he kept, which occupies the second half of f. 130 *b*, corresponds generally to lines 6997-7028 of SnR, but certain details are added from the narration in 1 Kings iv.-x. At line 27 we read: *Suidiugud tige Solman tra i. ui. cét ag mor ann cech lá i. ui. cét ol fina ann cech dia .xxx. coire do mhin-arba ann cech dia ocus .xxx. miach in cech coire .lx. ban oc fuine arba ann cech dia .lll. immda isin tig ocus tri hochtair in cech immdaid. lochrand itir cech da cethrur dib.* "The ordering of the House of Solomon: videlicet, six hundred great steers [read perhaps *áge*, 'joints'] there every day; six hundred draughts of wine there every day; thirty caldrons of fine meal there every day, and thirty measures to every caldron (cf. 1 Kings iv. 22); sixty women grinding meal there every day; a hundred and fifty chambers in the House (cf. 1 Kings vi. 5), and three parties of eight in each chamber; a torch between every two parties of four." This corresponds generally to SnR 7013-7022, but the choice of detail and the turns of phrase show a similarity to the description of the Hall of Tara which cannot be accidental: compare Temair iv. 68, 44, 55, and the title of the *Suidiugud Tige Midchuarda* LL 29 *a* 1. There is nothing in SnR about the 150 chambers, nor yet about the amount of meat and drink, and instead of the phrase *Suidiugud tige Solman* we have *frithalim tigi ind rig*. He had warrant for the 'chambers' in 1 Kings vi. 5, but the number of them and the idea of specifying the number of occupants seem to be drawn from the documents in LL. Either then the compiler, having in mind the analogy between Solomon and Cormac, has sought to improve on his original by introducing a reminiscence of the Hall of Tara: or he was drawing from a document which had also been used by the poet of Tem. iv. for his description of the palace of Cormac.

That the compiler of L. Br. had some earlier account of Solomon's house before him, other than SnR, is rendered probable by the fact that the passage which has just been quoted is found again almost word for word in the Yellow Book of Lecan, col. 245 (= facs. 419 *a*). And here it is cited expressly in order to institute a comparison between Solomon and Cormac, being interpolated into a copy of the *Suidiugud Tige Midchuarda*. This document, which in LL follows immediately upon Temair iv., is in Y separated from the Tara poems, which are incorporated with the *Dindsenchas*, and occur in quite a different part of the codex. The opening paragraphs of the *Suid T. Midch.* in Y's copy (edited Petrie 197) do not contain the sentence about the different nations that came to Cormac quoted above from LL. After the words *ocus erredha insin* (Petrie 199) follow a couple

of paragraphs on the *Inneoin in Dagda, Bir Dechin, and Fulacht na Morrigna* (edited Petrie 213, 214): and then comes this paragraph:—

*Suidiugud tigi Solman .uí.c. aighi mora ann gach lae .de. ol fina each lae .xxx. cor do min ann each lae .xxx. miach each oencheuir .lx. ban hic fuine arba ann each lae .lll. imdhaig ann .l. in gach imdaigh .c. molt .xxx. mart. Selg na slogh os hunn [ós chiunn ?] ut ailni [alii] dicunt :*

*Cet molt la trichait mart mbán.  
la táb sealga na slóg slán.  
da .c. miach darbur fo tri.  
feiss Solman cech oenaidhehi. 7c.*

(This stanza is found also in LBr 186 b.)

After this the *Suid. T. Midch.* is resumed as in Petrie 199. Evidently the first part of this comes from the same source as the passage in LBr, presumably a prose account of the reign of Solomon; while the latter part (which versifies 1 Kings iv. 22) is drawn from some poem on the same subject, other than that in SnR. Whether the former of these documents—that employed by the scribes of both LBr and YBL—was influenced by the Tara documents in LL, or whether the converse is the truth, must be left an open question. In either case the paragraph in YBL is fresh evidence that the comparison between Cormac and Solomon was familiar.

The “Panegyric on Cormac,” edited SG ii. 96 from Eg 1782, a ms. of the 15th century, makes the same comparison in general terms. “Saving David’s son, Solomon, there never was in the world a king that for lustre of his intellect, for opulence of his reign, might be likened to Cormac. For he never gave judgment but he had the three judicial requisites,” &c. After comparing him also to Octavius the writer goes on: “In the world there was not a king like Cormac, for he it was that excelled in form, in figure, and in vesture, in size, in justice, and in equity . . . He it was that in respect of sagacity, of wisdom, of eloquence, of action, and of valour, of royal sway, of domination, of splendour, of emulation, of ethics, and of race, was vigorous in his own time. Of Ireland he made a land of promise, she being then free of theft, of rapine, of violence,” &c.

These repeated parallels between Cormac and Solomon suggest the question whether the figure of the Jewish king—so well known in the Middle Ages not only from the Bible history, but from the aftergrowth of legend—may not have served as a model after which the personality of Cormac was developed? The quasi-historical Cormac of the Annals of Tigernach appears in popular tradition and in scholastic literature with a variety of traits, and in characters not always mutually reconcilable. In two principal attributes, however, he resembles Solomon: he is the type of regal magnificence and prosperity, and he is the type of kingly wisdom.

(1) The former is the point of comparison in Tem. iv. 109, and in the other passages hitherto adduced. A description of the peace and prosperity of Cormac’s reign, similar to that already quoted from Eg 1782, introduces the romantic tale edited Ir T iii. 185 from BB:—“At the time of that king the world was full of

every good thing. There were mast, and fatness, and sea-produce. There were peace, and ease, and happiness. There was neither murder nor robbery at that season, but every one abode in his own proper place." This is not very consistent with the account in Tigernach (RC xvii. 13-19) which represents Cormac as a man of war: on the other hand it resembles the description of Solomon's rule, "Judah and Israel were many, as the sand which is by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking and making merry. . . . And [Solomon] had peace on all sides round about him. And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig-tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon."—1 Kings iv. 20, 24.

(2) Cormac is the type of the wise and learned king. He was a lawgiver: the *Lebor Aichele* is in part ascribed to him, Laws, iii. 85: cf. Ir T iii. 211, and the character given to him, Tem. iii. 6. On this side he resembles Solomon especially in two points:

(a) By the *precocity* of his wisdom: the story of Cormac as a boy correcting the false judgment of Lugaid mac Con (see Petrie, 220) is a pendant to the decision of the boy Solomon as to the dead child.

YBL, col. 776 (= facs. 123 a), and LBr 37 b 30 *seq* have, in slightly different versions, a tale of Solomon's criticising the judgments of David (for tardiness, however—not falsity) much as Cormac criticises Lugaid (see RC ii. 382).

(b) Cormac epitomised his wisdom in the *Tecosc na Rig*, a series of moral precepts on the art of kingship and the whole duty of man, addressed to his son Cairbre Lifechair, just as Solomon addresses his son in the *Book of Proverbs*. (The homily entitled *Tecosc Solmain* in YBL, col. 863 (= facs. 166 b), does not offer a parallel to the *Tecosc na Rig*: it purports to contain the instruction imparted by God to Solomon.)

I do not mean to deny that a genuine tradition underlies the poetical descriptions of Tara, or that the romantic tales about Cormac are in the main of popular growth. But the mediæval authors who rehandled the native stuff were men of scholarly training, versed especially in Biblical and patristic learning; and it is as well to allow for the influence of their literary studies; their erudition and their patriotism alike tempted them to discover and underline points of resemblance between the culture and history of primitive Ireland and the elder civilizations of Rome and Palestine.

## TEMAIR V.

There does not seem to be any consistent principle of arrangement in this tiresome catalogue of names, so that in many cases it is impossible to say which of several places is intended; in many more I have not been able to propose any identification.

The metre is irregular: in stanzas 2, 3, and 15 the first and second lines rhyme and the third and fourth; in the rest the second and fourth lines rhyme, and the first line has generally (as in the last four stanzas) an *imperfect* rhyme with these.

1. *Taittiu* = now Teltown in Meath, once famous for its fair: RC xvi. 50.

2. *Raigne*, the name of a plain in Kilkenny, FM 859. *Rachru*, the old name of Lambay Island, off Malahide, Ir. Nenn. 139: also of Shannon Bridge, King's Co., FM, p. 1545.

*Ráth n-ábair*. Here and in 61 (see Critical Notes) *ráth* seems to be neuter; unless indeed the whole list of names is to be regarded as in the accusative, governed by *fósfácbus* (66).

3. *Cuillend*, presumably the Cullen near Limerick Junction, close by which rises the Camoge river, a confluent of the Maigue on which is Croom, formerly *Cromad*, FM 1151, p. 1100.

4. *Druim Suamaig*: see RC xvi. 81: not identified.

5. Most of the places mentioned in the next two stanzas seem to be in the province of Meath. *Síd mBruig*, the famous fairy mound of Brug on the Boyne, usually called *Síd in Broga*.

6. *Cumar Druman* may be the Comar mentioned in Cuan O'Lochain's poem on the privileges and obligations of the kings of Tara, L na C 12: cf. Top. P. x.

7. *Blatine*, somewhere in Meath; according to Reeves now Platin, in the parish of Duleek; V. Trip. 306: cf. Tigern. a 617.

8. *Mured*: a Mag Muireda in Bregia is mentioned, FM a.m. 4606.

*Maigin*. The name survives in the parish of Mayne in Westmeath: see L na C 10, note w: cf. FM 1012, p. 768, *Co Maighin attaed i ttaobh Cenannsa*, where *attaed* has perhaps arisen by dittography from *i ttaeb*.

9. *Cernna* in Meath: RC xv. 479. *Callann*: a Magh Callaind is mentioned, L na C 10, among places in Bregia.

11. *Cnoc Dabilla*, on the Boyne, RC xv. 292, 315.

12. *Crinna*, near Stackallan on the Boyne, FM 226.

*Colt*, somewhere in Meath: see FM 890, note y.

13. *Muirtemne*, the plain round Dundalk, L na C 21.

*Tlachtga*, now the Hill of Ward, near Athboy, L na C 10.

*Tuirbe*, now Turvey, near Donabate, Co. Dublin, FM 898.

14. *Suilige*. Lough Swilly is called *cuan Suilighe*, FM 1587, 1595, 1607. *Semne*, now Island Magee, Co. Antrim, L na C 170, FM a.m. 2859.

16. *Echtga*: *Sliab Echtga* was the old name of Slieve Aughty, on the borders of Clare and Galway, FM Index.

*Ai*: there was a *Mag Ai* in Roscommon; FM 1189 (*Mag Naei*); *Campus Ai* V. Trip. 312.

17-20. Of the twelve names contained in this stanza, nine are mentioned together in the Ds of Slige Dala, LL 169 *b*, edited SG ii. 524 (the Rennes copy printed RC xv. 455 differs considerably).

*Nás*, now Naas.

*Carman* is the old name of Wexford; but the Ds of Slige Dala mentions a *Carmun Liphi*, which seems to be a different place.

*Cualu*, according to O'Donovan, L na C 13, "coextensive with the half barony of Rathdown in the north of the county of Wicklow." But the district must have included Dublin, which is sometimes called *Áth Cliath* & *Cualainn* or *Ath Cliath Cualann*, to distinguish it from the western *Ath Cliath Medraige*: see LL 192 a 56, RC xv. 455.

*Rafann*: the place is named in L na C 93; but O'Donovan is mistaken in identifying it with Grafann: the two places are mentioned as distinct on p. 89; which of them is the same as *Cnoc Rafann* (Corm. 7) I cannot say. A lady of the name is mentioned in Ds of Slige Dala (LL) as having died at *Rairiu in uib Muredaig*, now Reerin, near Athy: RC xv. 419.

*Dun Inteing* is mentioned in Ds. of Slige Dala, as "among the hui Garrchon," and also in Ds. of Dun Maise, RC xvi. 270.

*Dun Clair* is probably the same as Dun Glaire, named in Ds of Slige Dala: according to O'Donovan, L na C 92, there are two forts called Dun g-Claire, one in Limerick, one in Kerry.

*Dun Crea*, called in Ds of Slige Dala Dun Grea, and placed in *sliab Airgiall* (Slieve Oriel?). (O'Grady, SG ii. 477 and 524, has displaced the words *in uib Garrchon*, which in LL follow *dun Inteing*.)

*Dun Brea*, placed in *uib Briuin Cualand*, Ds of Slige Dala: cf. RC xv 331.

*Dun Cairenn*, now Dunkerron, the name of a parish near Roscrea, King's Co. Bd reads *Dun Cairiu*, the other mss. *Dun Cairbre*, &c.; *Dun Cairenn* is mentioned in Ds of Slige Dala, and the form *Dun Cairiu* is ungrammatical; but if we read *Dun Cairenn* we must read *Rairenn* in 18, where Bd has *Rairiu*, the other mss. *Rairbe*, &c. *Rairiu* is no doubt the genuine form of the name, but in place-names the oblique forms began early to supersede the nominative; *Almain* for *Almu* is a common example.

21. *Uisnech*, now Usnach Hill, in West Meath: RC xv. 297.

22. *Slemun*, now Slewen or Slane, in West Meath: FM 492, MC iii. 91.

*Sláine*, now Slane, in Meath, FM Index: it is also the old name of the river Slaney.

*Sid Coba*. A 'king of Coba' is mentioned L na C 165: according to O'Donovan, *Magh Cobha* was in the baronies of Upper and Lower Iveagh, in Co. Down.

23. *Dermaġ*, now Durrow, in King's Co. : FM 1186.

24. *Luinnech*, now Limerick, FM Index.

*Lusmaġ*, see RC xvi. 59, now Lusma, in King's Co., FM 1595 (p. 1991).

25. *Druim Ríg*, now Drumree, near Ratoath, in Meath, FM 793.

*Druim Criad*, now Drumcree, in West Meath, MC ii. 262.

The reading of Bd and Ed no doubt arose from the contraction  $\acute{c} = cri$ .

*Druim Cain*: there were many places so called in Munster according to O'Donovan, L na C 91. It was one of the old names of Tara (Temair i. 25), and there was a place of the name in Tyrone, FM 1212.

30. *Chogba*, now Knowth, on the Boyne, FM 861.

*Cernna*, 'the principal burial-place of Bregia and the eastern part of Meath,' RC xvi. 67: cf. CML 66, note z.

*Collamair*: a *Síd Collomrach* is mentioned RC xv. 473: *Collamair Breg* (in Meath) IT 4, Index.

31. *Crufot*: FM 847 mention Crufat, 'now probably Croboy, in Meath.'

*Cruach Aigle* may be the same as *Cruachan Aigle*, 'now Croaghpatrick, a mountain about five miles west of the town of Westport' (in Mayo), RC xv. 469.

32. *Ará Odba*: Odba was the name of a hill near Navan, FM 890: cf. RC xvi. 55. I have not thought fit to supply the eclipsing *n* in the absence of MS. authority: in place-names it seems to have been treated capriciously: thus we have Lough Neagh (*loch n-Echach*), but Loch Owel (*loch Uair*): cf. 42.

35. *Bri Dam*, in the parish of Geashill, King's Co., FM 3501, note a, but there was also a *Bri Dam Dile* in Meath: RC xv. 478.

36. *Bri Léith*, near Ardagh, Co. Longford, RC xvi. 79.

*Bri Ele*, now the hill of Croghan, in King's Co., FM 1385 (p. 701): cf. RC xv. 457.

37-40. A list almost identical with these names occurs in LL 169 b 18 (Ds of Claenloch: ed. SG ii. 468, 513). *In oen bliadain tomáidm locha Dachæch 7 Cloenlocha 7 locha Da Dall 7 locha Fæf 7 locha nIng 7 locha Gabur 7 locha Gainn 7 locha Duib 7 locha nDremainn 7 locha Duind 7 locha Cerainn 7 locha Camn.*

Here *loch Dachæch* and *loch Dadall* are no doubt identical, and *Cloenloch* perhaps corresponds to the *loch Corr* of our text.

38. *Loch Gabur*, 'now dried up, but the place is still called Loch Gobhar, *anglice* Lagore,' FM a.m. 3581: according to Stokes, RC xvi. 59, it is near Dunshaughlin in Meath.

40. *Loch Cara*, now Lough Carra, in Mayo, RC xv. 469, FM 1586, p. 1847.

41. *Loch Rib*, now Lough Ree, RC xv. 483.

*Loch Cuan*, now Strangford Lough, FM Index.

42. *Loch Uair*, now Lough Owel, near Mullingar, in West Meath: RC xvi. 81, FM a.m. 3581.

43. *Loch Lein*, now the lake of Killarney, RC xv. 451, FM Index.  
*Loch Láig*, now Belfast Lough, RC xvi. 49, FM a.m. 3506; there was another Loch Láig in Co. Mayo, FM 848.
44. *Loch Cuil*, perhaps the same as *Loch Cuile* in Annaly, Co. Longford, FM Index.  
*Loch Cimne*, now Lough Hackett, in Galway, FM Index.
45. *Mag mBreg*, a plain in east Meath, RC xvi. 63.  
*Mag Find*, in Roscommon, FM 948.  
*Mag Ferai*, see RC xv. 436.
46. *Mag Luirg*, see RC xv. 472, now Moylurg, Co. Roscommon, FM 1187.  
*Mag Li*, on the west side of the Bann, according to O'Donovan, L na C 123.  
*Mag Line*, now Moylinny, in Co. Antrim, L na C 170.
47. *Mag Slecht*, in Co. Cavan, FM a.m. 3656: cf. RC xvi. 36.  
*Mag Cummai*. A Mag Cuma is mentioned RC xvi. 61 (cf. FM a.m. 3529), but not identified.
48. *Mag Móen*, mentioned RC xvi. 32: not identified.  
*Mag Míde*, the plain of Meath.
49. *Sinann*, the Shannon, see RC xv. 456.  
*Slígech*, the river Sligo or Gitley, in Co. Sligo: FM 1595 (p. 1974).
50. *Bóand*, now the Boyne, RC xv. 315.  
*Banna*, now the Bann, FM Index.  
*Berba*, now the Barrow, RC xv. 304.
52. *Fele*, perhaps the Feale in Co. Kerry.  
*Lífe*, the Liffey, RC xv. 303.  
*Lind Segsa* may be so called from *Segais*, the old name of the Curlew Mountains (FM Index).
53. *Ath Cliath*: either Ath Cliath in Cualu, the old name of Dublin, or Ath Cliath in Medraige, now Clarin Bridge, FM Index: see RC xv. 459.  
*Ath Croich*, near Shannon Harbour, King's Co.: FM 1547.  
*Ath Í*, now Athy: FM 1546 (p. 1496).  
*Ath Oirc*: see RC xv. 302, from which it appears to have been a ford on the Feeguile river in King's Co.
55. *Ath Luain*, now Athlone: cf. RC xv. 464.
56. *Ath Fráich*, where Fraech was drowned by Cuchulainn, apparently identical with "Ath Omna on the edge of Sliab Fuait": see RC xvi. 139, and the passage from LU there quoted. Sliab Fuait is in Co. Armagh: FM, Index.
- Ath Féne*, near Ories, Co. Westmeath, FM 1160, note *w*: cf. RC xvi. 148.
58. *Ess Ruaid*, now Assaroe, near Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal: RC xvi. 31.



62. *Ráth Mór*. There were several places so called: in Mag Line, Co. Antrim, FM 558, note *l*, cf. RC xvi. 48; in Tyrone, FM 111; in Mag Fea, Co. Carlow, SG ii. 210; in Limerick, FM 1579 (p. 1721).

*Ráth Medba*, at Tara, called after Medb, daughter of Eochu Feidlech, and wife of Ailill, SG ii. 201; according to others after Medb Lethderg, daughter of Conan, SG ii. 534; O'C Lect. 480.

63. *Ráth Becc*. There was a place of the name in Mag Line, Co. Antrim, FM 558; another in Co. Tyrone, FM 965; a third is mentioned, RC xv. 312.

*Rath Emna*, or Emain Macha, now Navan Fort, in Co. Armagh, FM A.M. 4532.

64. *Rath Truim*, perhaps the same as *Síd Truim*, "a hill east of Slane," FM 512.

65-80. In these stanzas there are, besides the end-rhyme, internal assonances (responses and echoes) between 1 and 2, 3 and 4.

68. *nodastrialla*: compare O'Dubhagain's formula *triallam timcheall . . . triallam siar . . . triallam co luath*, Top. P. 4, 58, 74, &c.

*Temair* is of course properly the nominative, but none of the codices gives the correct form *Temraig* here or in 72, 80; cf. note on Achall, 1.

69. *brainech* means properly 'having a prow': the sense must be either that Ireland is pre-eminent among the nations, or that she is led by one ruler.

73. *Maelsechlaind*: presumably Maelsechlaind Mor, who died A.D. 1022, at the age of 72, after a reign of 43 years: see FM.

74. *ima*. Although the poem belongs to the eleventh century, Bd and S have here the neuter form of the article. So in 67, Bd and Ed preserve the older form *nach ailiu*.

77-79. *a chland* is nom. to *rosfodail*.

79. *soichle* I take to be gen. depending on *sírblad*.

80. *díbdad*. In the three preceding stanzas there is a response between the third and fourth lines: we must therefore read *díbdad*, not *díbad*. The word seems to be the verbal noun of *díbdaim*, 'I extinguish, or become extinct,' BL Glossary. The line will then mean 'may there not be extinction [of it] in Tara!' Perhaps, however, we should read *sír-blaid* in 79 (both *blad* and *blaid* are found for the acc.: see ACL s.v.) and in 80 *na ro díbdaid*, 'may it not be extinguished!'

## ACHALL.

This poem professes to be written by Cinaeth ua hArtacan, for Amlaib, king of Ath Cliath (54, 81). The order of the stanzas is in evident confusion: the Book of Leinster has one arrangement, the rest of the mss. another. Further, the scribe of L, seeing that something was wrong, has suggested a different sequence by means of letters in the margin, which are reproduced in the text. We have thus three different arrangements to choose from, but none of them is satisfactory. I have followed the original order of L's copy, numbering the stanzas for facility of reference. The order in the other codices, according to these numbers, is: 1 to 6 as in L, 8, 15, 11, 12, 7, 17, 18, 9, 10, 13, 19, 20. The stanzas numbered 14, 16, 21, are given by L only; 22 is a later addition. The cause of confusion is no doubt the name *Achall* (*Aichle*, &c.), which ends 19 of the 22 stanzas; these similar endings would naturally lead to the omission of one or more stanzas, which would afterwards be inserted out of place. More than one rearrangement might easily be suggested, but I have not found one that seems altogether satisfactory.

St. 4 is evidently out of place, and should probably follow st. 5: then st. 6, 7, 8, form a commentary on the names mentioned in st. 4. St. 9 follows naturally on st. 8; after st. 9 we should perhaps insert st. 15, which is certainly misplaced in L. St. 10 should naturally be placed before st. 13, which takes up the same names; this would bring st. 11 and 12 (which cohere) immediately after st. 15: the instance of Achall's virtue would illustrate the praise of line 60. The remaining stanzas may be allowed to keep the order of L: we shall then have the arrangement: 1, 2, 3, 5, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 15, 11, 12, 10, 13, 14, 16, &c.: the result will be a piece not more disjointed than these compositions usually are.

The metre is not of a strict type: alliteration is irregular, internal responses are found only 11 times: viz. at 9-10; 15-16; 19-20; 23-24; 27-28; 47-48; 55-56; 61-62; 63-64; 75-76; 77-78; 79-80.

O'Curry has edited the poem from BB (Lect. 514).

Achall is now the Hill of Skreen, near Tara; from it was named the *Lebor Aicle*, published in the third volume of the Laws. The name is usually spelled *Acall* (*Accall*, *Aaald*, &c.) in all mss. except L.

1. *Temair* here and in 20 is treated as indeclinable, *metri gratia*: *Temrach* would not rhyme. At 27 and 31 also L reads *Temair* for *Temraig*: cf. critical notes on *Temair* iv. 23, and 101, and commentary on *Temair* v. 68.

4. *Glan* is mentioned as Achall's husband in the prose version (RC xv. 289), and also at LL 138 a 43. The same authorities say that Cairpre Nia Fer and Fedelm Noichruthach were the parents of Achall and Erc.

7. *erctha raind*: the phrase might mean 'stanzas were filled'; but, at Tond Clidna II. 11 (BB 374 a 24), where the same expression occurs, 'divisions' of territory seem to be meant.

8. *góita*; past. part of *gonim*, here used as pf. pass.: cf. LH. Index s. v.

9. According to a poem in LL 45 a 11 (edited by O'Curry, Lect. 482), Erc cut off Cuchulainn's head in the battle of Murthemne, in revenge for his father, who had been slain by Cuchulainn. In the *Táin Bó Cualnge* the deed is attributed to Lugaid, son of Curói: see RC iii. 182, or Miss Hull's Cuchullin Saga 260.

13. *Duma na nDruad* can hardly be the place in Sligo mentioned in the *Stuaged Dathi*: see O'C. Lect. 284.

*Duma Find*: presumably called after Find mac Rossa: see 25.

14. *Duma Créidne*, named no doubt from the famous artificer of the Tuatha De Danann, who worked at Tara: MC iii. 43, 210, Corm. 123, s. v. *nescoit*.

19. *glain*. The word here seems to mean 'pure of blood': the friendly contest is contrasted with real war. Compare the phrase *glaine glac* Tem. iii. 33, and cf. *glan-graifni*, Carmun 8: *glan-armaib*, Carmun, 152 (LL 215 a 34, b 42).

25. Find Ailill and Cairpre were sons of Ross Ruad and Matamuirisce: see Serg. Conc. 22: LL 45 a 8; SG ii. 527. Find was slain by Conall Cernach, and his head brought (with that of Erc and many others) to Emer, Cuchulainn's widow: see *Dergruathar Conaill Chernaig*, Gaelic Journal, April, 1901, p. 66 a.

39. *ségda rand*. The facs. of LL here reads *raind*, but the ms. has *ra-nd*. O'Curry substitutes *Faind* (from 51); but we should then have *seven* ladies, not *six*.

*Medb*, the famous Queen of Connacht, wife of Ailill mac Rossa.

*Sadb*: perhaps the daughter of Conn Cetchathach, and wife of Ailill Olomm, is meant: see IT iv. Index.

*Sarait*, the name of another daughter of Conn: SG ii. 518.

*Garb*: a lady so named was mother of Fiachna mac Deman, king of Ulster: SG ii. 546.

*Erc*, probably the mother of Muirchertach Mór, King of Ireland: MC ii. 156; SG ii. 516; Ir. Nenn. 180, and ci.

*Emer*, wife of Cuchulainn: IT i. 205, &c.

42. *Eochu*. In the poem LL 138 a 44, Achall is said to have been the wife of Glan mac Carbad or of Eochu mac Carbad; but at line 4 of our text her husband's name is given as Glan mac Carbad, so that the Eochu here mentioned was presumably Glan's brother.

43. *tarmairt* means 'intended (but in vain)': 'went within a little of . . .'; 'tried (but failed).'

46. *crichid*. This word occurs frequently in SnR, but it is hard to fix the exact meaning. It is applied there to *cathir*, *class*, *cuaird*, *Pardus*, *Eva*, *scél*, *cruth*, *Moisi*, *greim*, *aithesc* (tidings of wrath), *cumtach*: and FM 926 to *crábad*.

47. Literally 'that there was not found her hour of secrecy': *i.e.* she would not give Eochu an assignation: cf. Laws iii. 38, *cland adaltrach ná ban taide*.

48. *áille* seems to be the comparative of *álaind*, but the construction is unusual.

49. *dorat meirg tar*: cf. PH 3938, *dorat airrde na crochi tar Adam*. The word *meirg*, 'wrinkle,' Wi., seems to be the same as *meirg*, 'rust,' Wi, here used metaph. of old age.

50. *Medb Lethderg*, wife of Fedlimid Rechtmar and poetess: see the account of her at LL 44 b 42, and the passage edited by O'Curry, Lect. 480, from some other source.

55. *rind-chert*, 'metrical law': *rind*, 'verse-end,' IT iii. 130.

67. *Maine*: mentioned in a list of famous poets, IT iii. 114.

70. A *Rath Chairbre* is mentioned, RC xvi. 68; but it was named for Cairbre Lifechair, not Cairbre Niafer.

71. *Essa*, daughter of Eochu Airem and Etaine; after whom Rath Esa was called: see Todd L vii. 2.

73. *Fogartach*. The Annals of Ulster, *anno* 780, record the battle of Righe gained by the men of Bregia over the Leinstermen, and name among the victorious princes Maelduin and Fogartach, "duo nepotes Cernaig": cf. line 78. The roads of the Northmen began, according to the Annals of Ulster, in 794.

81. Amlaib of Ath Cliath is no doubt the Danish king mentioned by FM at the years 943, 965, 976, 978. His name in Danish was Olaf Cuaran: for an account of his life see CGG xcix. (note 2) and 280. He died, according to FM, in 978, three years after Cinaeth ua hArtacain.

83. *tallus luag*: cf. RC xv. 302, *tallas luagh mor fo* (the MSS. *áivide talla sluag*: Stokes reads *tall sluag*).

84. This line is corrupt in L, the only MS. which has the stanza. *Aichle* for *aicee* is an obvious correction; nearly every stanza of the poem ends with some case of Achall. The line is a syllable short, and I have no hesitation in supplying *ech*: for the idiom, cf. Tem. iv. 64, and Wi 476a.





I

# ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY

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100

# CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE, . . . . .	v
LIST OF MANUSCRIPTS, . . . . .	vii
TEXT AND TRANSLATION :—	
RÁTH ESSA, . . . . .	2
BRUG NA BÓINDE I.,. . . . .	10
BRUG NA BÓINDE II.,. . . . .	18
INBER N-AILBINE, . . . . .	26
OCHAN, . . . . .	36
MIDE, . . . . .	42
DRUIM NDAIRBRECH, . . . . .	46
LAGIN I., . . . . .	50
LAGIN II., . . . . .	52
SLIAB BLADMA, . . . . .	54
FID NGA BLI, . . . . .	58
MAG LIFE, . . . . .	60
BERBA, . . . . .	62
MÓIN GÁI GLAIS, . . . . .	64
FÁFFAND, . . . . .	66
ALMU I., . . . . .	72
ALMU II., . . . . .	78
ALEND, . . . . .	80
NOTES, . . . . .	89

10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20

I

## P R E F A C E

OF the eighteen poems here edited, five have been already published: those on Ráth Essa, Faffand, and Almu I., in the Todd Lecture Series, vol. vii.; that on Inber n-Ailbine, in *Atlantis*, iv. 235, from materials left by O'Curry; that on Lagin II. in Stokes' *Bodleian Dindsenchas*, p. 7, and in Atkinson and Bernard's *Liber Hymnorum*, ii. 58.

As in former volumes, I have based my text as far as possible on the Book of Leinster, and have taken the ordinary practice of this codex as my standard of orthography. The critical apparatus is, I hope, reasonably full; the symbol "&c." is used to include various spellings of the same reading. In the text of Almu I., which is found only in L, the expanded contractions are scrupulously italicised: this has not been done elsewhere, except in doubtful cases. I have given more weight than formerly to the readings of S<sub>3</sub>, a late, but accurate, codex. I have made use of M, a copy which I had unaccountably overlooked until my attention was drawn to it by Prof. Meyer.

My thanks are due to two friends: to Prof. Atkinson, who has given me constant sympathy and advice; and to Mr. W. J. Purton, who has read my proofs, and helped me with useful criticism.

EDWARD GWYNN.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN,

May, 1906.

1773

The first part of the year was spent in the  
 study of the history of the country and  
 the progress of the arts and sciences.  
 In the second part of the year I was  
 employed in the study of the natural  
 history of the country and the progress  
 of the arts and sciences. In the third  
 part of the year I was employed in the  
 study of the history of the country and  
 the progress of the arts and sciences.  
 In the fourth part of the year I was  
 employed in the study of the natural  
 history of the country and the progress  
 of the arts and sciences. In the fifth  
 part of the year I was employed in the  
 study of the history of the country and  
 the progress of the arts and sciences.  
 In the sixth part of the year I was  
 employed in the study of the natural  
 history of the country and the progress  
 of the arts and sciences. In the seventh  
 part of the year I was employed in the  
 study of the history of the country and  
 the progress of the arts and sciences.  
 In the eighth part of the year I was  
 employed in the study of the natural  
 history of the country and the progress  
 of the arts and sciences. In the ninth  
 part of the year I was employed in the  
 study of the history of the country and  
 the progress of the arts and sciences.  
 In the tenth part of the year I was  
 employed in the study of the natural  
 history of the country and the progress  
 of the arts and sciences.

MANUSCRIPTS OF THE *DINDSHENCHAS*

CITED IN THIS VOLUME.

- LU = Leabhar na Huidhre.
- L = The Book of Leinster.
- R = The Rennes MS.
- B = The Book of Ballymote.
- Y = The Yellow Book of Lecan.
- H = Trinity College, H. 3. 3 (1322).
- E = Trinity College, E. 4. 1 (1436).
- M = The Book of the Hui Maine, Royal Irish Academy, Stowe,  
D. II. 1.
- S = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, D. II. 2.
- S<sub>2</sub> = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, B. II. 2.
- S<sub>3</sub> = Royal Irish Academy, Stowe, B. III. 1.
- V = Royal Irish Academy, Reeves, 832.



PART II

## RATH ESA.

Sund dessid domunemar,  
 iar tíchtain bruthmar báire,  
 ingen Echdach Aireman  
 ocus Étáine áine.

Esa ainm na hingine ; 5  
 is di atá Ráth Ésa ;  
 céit cech míl cen timdibe  
 tucad lé, ba búaid mbésa.

Midir roalt in find-ben-sin 10  
 fri hól fína ocus meda ;  
 nóí mbliadna dond ingin-sin  
 i mBrí Léith, láthar nena.

Tar cend Echdach Aireman 15  
 ruc Midir Étáin n-ólaig  
 a Fremaind, ciarb aire-glan,  
 co farcaib Banbai mbrónaig.

Asbert Codal crín-chossach :  
 “ Ní écen dúib a fochmarc ;  
 i mBrí Leith ar fír-thossach ;  
 é leth luidi for tochmarc.” 20

La tóeb Echdach Aireman  
 lótar slúraig Érend áine  
 a Fremaind, ciarb aire-glan,  
 do thogail Brí Léith láine.

---

LRBYMSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>HV. 2. *tíchtain*] tíchtu L. *bruthmar*] bruthmair S. 6. *is di*] is de RBM; uaiti, &c. YS<sub>2</sub>; is uaiti, &c. HS. 8. *búaid*] bóan L. *mbésa*] LRB; fheasa M; mesa, messa, &c. *caet*. 9. *roalt*] ronalt S<sub>2</sub>; dalt RMHSY *ben*] mnai RBMS. 13. *Tar cend*] do.chinn L. 14. *n-ólaig*] eolaigh, &c. SS<sub>2</sub>. 5. *ciarb aireglan*] I.L.; gerb oreglan V; ciarb airerclan R; ciarboreagail M;



## RATH ESA.

Here settled, as we believe,  
 after coming to a goal eagerly sought,  
 the daughter of Eochaid Airem  
 and of Etain the noble.

Esa was the name of the maid, 5  
 from her is Rath Esa called :  
 a hundred of every [sort of] beast without abatement  
 were brought by her, it was a choice tribute.

Midir kept the fair woman 10  
 with wine and mead to drink ;  
 nine years did the maiden spend  
 at Bri Leith with the spirit of a handmaid.

In spite of Eochaid Airem  
 Midir bore off the festive Etain  
 from Fremand, though bright of brow ; 15  
 so she left mournful Banba.

Said Codal of the withered foot :  
 "Ye need not to search for her ;  
 in Bri Leith is the beginning of our search ;  
 'tis thither she has gone a-wooing." 20

By the side of Eochaid Airem  
 came the hosts of noble Erin  
 from Fremand, though bright of brow,  
 to sack bright Bri Leith.

---

ciarbairerglan, &c. *cat.* 16. *co farcaib*] *co fargaib* L ; *foragaib* BS ; for  
*facaib*, &c. RMYS<sub>2</sub>H. 17. *asbert*] *atbert*, &c. LM. 19. *ar*] a YS ; *iar*  
 HS<sub>3</sub>V. 20. *é leth*] *is é leth*, &c. HS<sub>2</sub> ; *alleith* M ; *is and* S. *luidi*] *luide*  
 LR ; *doluidh* SS<sub>2</sub> ; *luid* H. 21. *la*] *ro L*, 23. *aireglan*] L ; *ore . . glan* Y ;  
*oiredh glan* S ; *ainsiubal* S<sub>2</sub> ; *imairi* M ; *airerglan*, &c. *cat.* : *see Notes.*

Nóí mblíadna 'con togail-sin, nírbo romór a hoibne ; Midir ocon dolaim-sin, oc admilliud na hoipre.	25
Iar togail in tsída-sin doluid cóica fer fuilngech, (ropo delbda in díne-sin) d'acallaim na ríg ruibnech.	30
Tuctha and dia cétáine (ba scél n-irdaire rochúala) do Echdaig i rícht Éttáine tri cóicait ban, bríg búada.	35
Is díb-sin doróega-seom, a ingin fír-glain fessin ; ba gó aní romaíde-seom, conid sí dál forsndessid.	40
'S í sin ruc Meiss mBuachalla máthair Conaire chélig ; ba dál amnas fuachalda : rosalt for slúag n-árd n-Ébir.	
Dia luid Eochaid atherruch do thogail Brí Léith láine tuc a mnái iar n-athelluch ó Midir, monur n-áine.	45
Is andsin doringart-seom a eneclaind for Midir Eochaid firén find-balc-som, conosruc iar ndáil dligid.	50

25. 'con] don YHS<sub>2</sub>. 26. a hoibne] a opre (vel n *superscr.*) L; a noipní MS<sub>3</sub>.  
dolaim] doloim L; dolum, &c. RB; dolmad S dloamad *cat.* 28. na hoipre] anoipre,  
&c. RBS<sub>3</sub>. 30. fuilngech] furmech, &c., LYS<sub>2</sub>; fuigleach M. 31. delbda] delba,  
&c. RM; dédla, &c. YS<sub>2</sub>S. 33. tuctha] dafuctha M; tucadh S. and] om.  
JRB. 36. cóicait] L; fichit *cat.* 37. díb] L; and *cat.* doroeaga] doraga  
YS<sub>3</sub>; doraighi H; doraighi S<sub>2</sub>. 39. aní] an L; inní S. ro maíde]  
L; romaíde H; romaigi Y; imaigi S<sub>2</sub>; romaíde M; romaídhedh S<sub>3</sub>; romaighedh  
S; domáid R; domaidid B. 40. conid] conad, &c. YSS<sub>3</sub>H. si] L; í, &c.

Nine years were they about that sacking ;  
its speed was none too great. 25

Midir was causing that delay (?),  
he was busy destroying the work.

After the sack of the fairy fort  
there came fifty hardy men, 80  
(shapely was that tribe)  
to talk with the slaughtering kings.

Then were brought on a Wednesday  
( 'twas a famous tale, I have heard)  
to Eochaid, in form like Etain, 85  
thrice fifty women, excellent might !

From them he chose out  
his own right pure daughter ;  
false was the declaration [Midir] made  
that this was the meeting agreed upon. 40

She it was bare Mes Buachalla  
mother of friendly Conaire,  
(it was a cunning . . . union),  
she reared her to be over Eber's high race.

When Eochaid went again 45  
to sack bright Bri Leith,  
he bore off his wife, having reunited with her,  
from Midir—glorious feat !

'Twas then he demanded  
his honour-fine from Midir— 50  
did Eochaid the upright, the fair and strong—  
and obtained it after award by law.

*cæt.* *forsndessid*] forsneidseon M. 41-44.] *om.* S. 42. *chéliq*] *chelig*  
LR; *ceblig vel ceillig* B; *ceolaig*, &c. MYS<sub>2</sub>; *ceillidh*, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>V: *see Notes*.  
43. *dál amnas*] L; *scél n-irdaire*, &c. *cæt.* *fuachalda*] L; *nuachalla*, &c.  
RBS<sub>2</sub>Y; *nuachalda* H; *nuacolla*, &c. MS<sub>3</sub>V. 44. *rosalt*] *roselt* L. *sluag*] L; *sil cæt.* *Ébir*] Eogain YS<sub>2</sub>: *see Notes*. 45. *dia*] L; *do cæt.* 46. *Bri*] *bria* L; *brith* M. 52. *conosruc*] L; *comoruc*, &c. *cæt.* *iar ndáil*] L; *dodail*, &c. RY; *dail* B; *adail* SS<sub>2</sub>; *andail* MHS<sub>3</sub>V.

- Is é-so in cetharda  
dorógai Eochaid Airem,  
co n-ilur drong decharda 55  
co lín sciath agus claideb.
- Tochur for móin Lámraigi,  
fid for Brefni co feochra,  
dichlochad más már-Midi,  
agus luachair for Tebtha. 60
- “ A ingen domringair-se ”  
ar Eochaid “ ráid ’sind úair-se  
ca dindgna dom dindgnaib-se  
cosnotidnastar úaim-se.”
- Is andsin doróega-si 65  
Ráith n-Ésa, fáil fri find-blai,  
suide asnasoerad-si  
asnaccad na tri dindgnai.
- Síd in Broga belgaig-se,  
in tress dindgna cóir cétach, 70  
Duma nGiall is’ Temraig-se,  
Dún cáin Crimthaind i n-Étar.
- Is andsin doridnacht-si  
ó Echdaig, rád cen fulla,  
co cach neoch dorimgart-si, 75  
co n-ilur a sét sunda.
- Midir iar cúl mithisi  
doluid imon dáil ndétla  
co Echdaig doridisi,  
imon caingin cóir cétna. 80

53. so] sin L. 54. dorógai] L; dorimart RB; dorimgart *cæt.*  
55. decharda] L; n-dreacharda, &c. YS; ndrechferda, &c. *cæt.* 57. for] L; tar *cæt.*  
58. for] L; tar *cæt.* 59. mar] &c. SS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>H; mór, &c. *cæt.* 60. for] L tar; *cæt.*  
61. domringair] L; domingair, &c. *cæt.* 63. ca] LM; cia *cæt.* 64. cosnotid-  
nastar] L; gustignastar S<sub>2</sub>; cosatidnastar, &c. *cæt.* uaimse] in uairse S<sub>2</sub>. 65] do-  
roegai-si] dosregaimsea, &c. RB; daragasi YS; doraidhesi S<sub>2</sub>; roraegaisi M.  
66. fal] LS<sub>2</sub>; fial *cæt.* 67. asnasoerad] L; asasoerfad RB; asa

This is the fourfold demand  
 that Eochaid Airem made,  
 with many a distinguished company, 55  
 with tale of shields and swords :

[To build] a causeway across the bog of Lamraige,  
 [to plant] a wood growing wild over Brefne,  
 to clear stones from the Bottoms of great Mide,  
 and [to set] rushes over Tebtha. 60

“ O daughter, demand of me,”  
 said Eochaid ; “ tell me now  
 which fortress of my fortresses [thou desirest],  
 and it shall be bestowed on thee by me.”

Then it was she chose 65  
 Rath Esa, a precinct with a fair lawn,  
 a seat whence she might plunder (?),  
 whence she might see the three fortresses.

The Mound of Brug of the roads,  
 one of three fortresses built aright, fit for a hundred, 70  
 Duma Giall in Tara,  
 fair Dun Crimthaind in Howth.

Then was [the Rath] bestowed  
 by Eochaid—a word without delusion—  
 with everything she demanded 75  
 with plenty of treasures therein.

Midir after the expiry of truce  
 came about the bold award  
 to Eochaid once more,  
 about the same just business. 80

soerfaid M ; as a sailfead, &c. YHSS<sub>2</sub> ; as a saillfi, &c. S<sub>3</sub>V ; see Notes. 68. *accad*] L ; aicfed, &c. *cet*. 69. *belgaig*] belgaid, &c. RBYMSS<sub>3</sub>H ; braenaidh S<sub>2</sub>.  
 70. *in*] i L. *cetach*] L ; cetsut R ; cedsud B ; cedsuth M ; cetsaith (?) Y ; cetna,  
 &c. *cet*. 71. *nGiall is'*] L ; nGiall sa RY ; nG'sin, &c. MS ; naG'is S<sub>2</sub> ;  
 nanG'sa BS<sub>3</sub>H. 73-76.] not in L. 74. *rdá*] dail S<sub>2</sub>. 75. *neoch*] ní, &c. YSS<sub>3</sub>. 77. *cúl*] coll L. 78. *imon*] mo LL. 79. *doridisi*] L ;  
 afrithisi, &c. *cet*.

Gáid Midir in find-bile  
 'mo les ndían 'mondernta  
 Sigmall mac a ingine,  
 fail i Síð noithech Nennta.

Ogniad ainm a máthar-som, 85  
 ingen-side do Midir ;  
 nochon olc a láthar-som  
 cen descin cirt ná dligid.

Rucad Éttáin aire-glan 90  
 siar, ciarbo tolcda in tustiu,  
 la cend Ehdach Aireman,  
 co mbói i Síð Nenta iar n-uscíu.

Atá thiar in slóg-drongach 95  
 oc Sigmall, síd cen fulla,  
 oc úa Midir mór-glonnach,  
 ocus ní thoracht sunda.

81. 'mo les] móles L; moleis S<sub>1</sub>; molais S<sub>2</sub>; imoles, &c. RS<sub>3</sub>V; umon leas M; moales, &c. BH; modoles Y. ndían] dian LR; indail S<sub>2</sub>; ni Y.  
 mondernta] L; mandernta S<sub>2</sub>; conderna B; conearnta M; condernta, &c. cæt.  
 84. noithech] nathach R; næthech B; naitheach YS<sub>2</sub>. 86. side] isein M.  
 87. láthar] luthar L? 88. descin] L; decain, &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>; detin, &c. BHS<sub>3</sub>V;

Midir prayed the noble prince  
 for the strong keep where was begotten  
 Sigmall, his daughter's son,  
 who dwells in noble Sid Nenta.

Ogniad [was] his mother's name ; 85  
 she was daughter to Midir ;  
 not evil was her disposition  
 though she knew not rule nor law.

Etain of the bright brows was borne 90  
 to the West, though proud was her birth,  
 with the head of Eochaid Airem ;  
 so she was in Sid Nenta beyond the water.

In the West is the mistress of numerous hosts  
 with Sigmall,—a fairy place without delusion—  
 with the valorous grandson of Midir ; 95  
 and she has not returned hither.

didin M. 89. *aireglan*] L ; oiredhglan S ; airedglan H ; aireadha M ; airerglan *cæt.*  
 90. *siar*] siur RBM. *ciarbo*] cobo, &c. RB ; corbha M ; nibo S<sub>2</sub>.  
*toleda*] tole YS ; ole S<sub>2</sub>. 91. *la*] ro L. 93. *thiar*] hiar M.  
*morglonnach*] morglonnaig L. 96. *toracht*] &c. LS<sub>2</sub> ; tainic, &c. *cæt.*

## BRUG NA BÓINDE I.

CINÁED UA HARTACÁN *cecinit.*

Án-sin a maig mic ind Óc,  
 fairsing do rót, rethaib cét :  
 forolgais mór flathe fir  
 d' aiome cech ríg immotrét.

Rotbrecai cach n-ingnad n-án 5  
 a chlár find-glan, fichtib slúag,  
 a thir férach fénach féig,  
 a iath n-énach n-indsech n-úag.

Tech mic ind Óc ós do dind,  
 ríгда fót fri féle find : 10  
 taircet éim ós do lind duind  
 géill a sídib Érend ind.

Ingen Foraind fort lár luind,  
 cáin mál, ba molbthach in mind :  
 furri rolád in tor thall : 15  
 ní gann in nath ós a cind.

Atchú lind find Féic na Fían  
 frit aniar, ní timm in gním,  
 co lá brátha, brígach bág,  
 meraid hi fán rátha ríg. 20

Lánamain contuiled sund  
 iar cath Maige Tuired thall :  
 in ben mór, in Dagda donn :  
 ní duaichnid a n-adba ann.

---

LURBMHSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. 1. a] i B. maig] bruigh SM. 2. do] i H; da M. rethaib] LUB; srethaib *caet.* cét] LU; sét, &c. *caet.* 3. forolgais] LU; dalais did M; rolais dit *caet.* flathe fir] LU; fian iar fir RBMSS<sub>3</sub>; fian co fir HS<sub>2</sub>V. 4. cech] LU; na S<sub>2</sub>; mór *caet.* immotrét] V; mótrét LU; imotréd, &c. RBSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; imatret H; rigatred M. 5. Rotbrecai] LU; dogabais S<sub>2</sub>; rogabais, &c. *caet.* cach] LU; mór *caet.* fichtib] fithib R; fitib H. 7. férach fénach] ferach fénach LU; fremach ferach *caet.* 8. n-uag] LU; n-uar, &c. *caet.* 9-12] in LU only. 13. Foraind] araind LU. fort lár] LU; cain ar S<sub>2</sub>; ar lár, &c. *caet.*



## BRUG NA BÓINDE I.

Bright is it here, O plain of Mac ind Oc!  
wide is thy road with traffic of hundreds;  
thou hast covered many a true prince  
of the race of every king that has possessed thee.

Every bright wonder hath adorned thee, 5  
O clear shining plain with scores of hosts,  
O lucent land of grass and waggons,  
O virgin mead of birds and islands!

The house of Mac ind Oc above thy stead,  
a royal sod with true hospitality; 10  
there come in sooth above thy brown stream  
hostages from the fairy-hills of all Erin thither.

The daughter of bold Pharaoh [lies] on thy floor  
a kind princess, precious was the diadem;  
over her was set the tower in that place, 15  
not sparing was the dirge over her head.

I see the clear pool of Fiacc of the warriors  
west of thee,—not feeble the deed—  
till the day of Doom—mighty boast—  
shall he abide on the slope of the royal rath. 20

Here slept a married pair  
after the battle of Mag Tuired yonder,  
the great lady [and] the swart Dagda:  
not obscure is their dwelling there.

---

*luind*] LU; *luing cæt.* 14. *cain*] *om.* S<sub>2</sub>. *nil*] LURB in *mal*, &c. *cæt.*  
*ba*] *da* M. *molbthach*] *molfach* R; *molbtha* BH; *molta* S<sub>2</sub>; *mholaind* M.  
*in mind*] LUH; *mind* mind M; *mind cæt.* 15. *furri*] LU; *impi*, &c. *cæt.*  
16. *in nath*] BS<sub>2</sub>; *iná* R; *anath* S<sub>3</sub>V; *inath* MS; *annad* H; *ignod* LU. *Read*  
*perhaps* in *gnod.* *ós*] *uais* H. *á*] *do* LU. 17–20] *only* in LU.  
18. *tim*] *tim* LU. 21. *contuiled*] *contuiled*, &c. RBMS<sub>2</sub>. *sund*]  
*sann* BS<sub>3</sub>. 22. *iar*] *ria* LU. *cath*] *after this word a folio is missing*  
*from* S. 24. *duaichnid*] *duaithnid* R; *duichnid* H; *duithnidh* M.

Lecht in Máthai iarna guin 25  
léir fort a Bruig, breccas graig :  
a chnáim rochorbai in muir,  
diatá Inber Colptha cain.

Sechi bó Boadain buain  
ós grúaid a liac budi báin : 30  
Termond na Fían fedil féig  
im réid airthir Nemid náir.

Hi Fertai na Fáilenn fand,  
is and romaided in glond :  
mór in gním n-úalle do rind 35  
écht Find forfein Lúagne lond.

Génair inneot mellach mac  
Cellach roslat leirg for lore ;  
ba túalnge trebe, rotchacht,  
conappad éc n-úalle fort. 40

A barc braineach na tor tromm,  
tathig trethan-tonn do dind :  
otha Chrimthainn Niad co Niall  
ba tu relec na fian find.

Fintan Feradach fecht fland 45  
rothecht do thalmain in trom :  
Tuathal Techtmar, triath ar cland,  
foluing do land lechtach lom.

---

25. *Lecht*] *cnoc* LU. *Máthai*] LU; *mata*, &c. *cæt.* *iar n-a guin*] ar mag uin B (*corr. by a later hand to iar n-a guin*); ar in maigh S<sub>2</sub>; ardamhuigh M.  
26. *léir-fort*] LU; o raith S<sub>2</sub>; orut, &c. *cæt.* a] in S<sub>2</sub>. *Bruig*] muicech H.  
27. *a chnáim*] LU; is é a cnám, &c. BH; isedachnamh M; se cnama S<sub>2</sub>. 10] om. M. *chorbai*] cobra (*corr. by a later hand to corb*) B; corb HS<sub>2</sub>. 29-40] in LU only.  
31. *fedil*] fedeil LU. 32. *réid*] reid LU. 33. *fáilenn*

The Grave of the Matha after his slaying  
is plain to see on thee, O Brug, studded with horses :  
The sea has rotted his bone,  
whence pleasant Inber Colptha is [named]. 25

The Hide of the Cow of undying Boadan  
over the cheek of his yellow-white stone :  
the Precinct of the staunch keen warriors  
about the eastern level of noble Nemed. 30

At the Trench of the gentle Seagulls  
it is there was wrought the deed—  
great the proud feat of the spear—  
the slaying of Finn whom the bold Luagne smote. 35

In thee was born a beguiling boy,  
Cellach, who plundered the plain on his track ;  
he was able to face a tribe, he captured thee,  
and died in thee a death of pride. 40

O beaked bark of the strong towers,  
the sea-tide visits thy stead :  
from the days of Crimthand Nia to Niall  
thou wast the burying-place of the fair-haired warriors.

Fintan Feradach, of bloody battles,  
possessed thy land, the strong prince ;  
Tuathal Techtmar, lord of our clans,  
thy bare sepulchral soil sustains. 45

failend LU: see Notes. 36. *Lúagne*] Lúagni LU. 38. *leirg*] léirg LU.  
41. *braineach*] bránach RB. 42. *trethan*] traetren B. *tond*] trom LU.  
*do dind*] LU; do lind S<sub>2</sub>; fo lind BH; fot lind, &c. RMS<sub>3</sub>V. 43. *otha*] LU;  
o *cæt*. *niad*] LUB; nia nár, &c. RS<sub>3</sub>V; níathnar, &c. MH; nia ceitri S<sub>2</sub>.  
co *Niall*] nall S<sub>2</sub>. 44. *ba*] LU; is, &c. *cæt*. 45-48. in LU only.  
46. *thalmain*] thalam LU.

Fedelmed Rechtach it rím,  
 ba gein gleccach fri cech tóir ; 50  
 nidat écradach hi tír,  
 focheil Conn cét-chathach cóir.

Ní thoracht Art, aidble uird :  
 immanaigtis luirg ar leirg :  
 rogab lige n-uachail n-ard 55  
 arg na láech i Luachair Deirg.

Ní thoracht Cormac cen lén :  
 déad na fírinne, rodffir,  
 rogab fos ós Bóind báin  
 forsín traig ic Ros na Ríg. 60

Cairpre Lifechair fort lár :  
 Fiachu Sraptine rán réil :  
 Muiredach tírech dim Brí :  
 in rí Eochu athair Néil.

Ní thoracht Niall, nuall nad gó ; 65  
 dírsan dó in rian rorá,  
 iar ndul co hElpa fo secht  
 ro fes a lecht áit itá.

Iarsin tánic cretem glan  
 for Mag Fáil, bés nirbo rom, 70  
 co fail cách i reilcib noém  
 dia scarad fri cléin fri col.

49. *Fedelmed*] LU; feidlim, &c. *cæt.* *Rechtach*] LU; rehtaíd, &c. RBM; rechtmar, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>V; rech- S<sub>2</sub>. *it rím*] LU; art lár B; ar do lár RHS<sub>3</sub>V; ar triall S<sub>2</sub>; artha lar M. 50.] LU; nirbu elcmar fri gach toir, &c. MHS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V; nirbu elcmar ar gach coir B; nirbo helcmar ar cach tóir R. 51. *nidat*] LU; nirbo S<sub>2</sub>; ciarbo, &c. *cæt.* *écradach*] brec brathach S<sub>2</sub>. *itir*] LU; iar fir *cæt.* 52. *focheil*] LU; do riacht HV; do triacht, &c. RBS<sub>3</sub>; douríath, &c. MS<sub>2</sub>. 53. *aidble*] LUV; aille, &c. *cæt.* 54. *immanaigtis*] *ed.*; immánaig tess LU; imon gebdís, &c. *cæt.* *ar*] for LU; tar HV. 55. *n-uachail*] nuachal LU; n-uathaid, &c. *cæt.*; naid B. *n-aird*] nard LU. 56. *arg*] LUS<sub>3</sub>; airg *cæt.* *i*] &c. LUBM; a, &c. *cæt.* 58. *déad*] LU; dáig *cæt.*

Fedelmed the Lawgiver is in thy tale ;  
 he was a warlike wight on every chase ; 50  
 they are not at enmity in the ground :  
 thou hidest Conn the just, the hundred-fighter.

There came not Art, highest in rank,  
 round whom rode troops on the battlefield ;  
 he found a grave proud and lofty, 55  
 the champion of the heroes, in Luachair Derg.

There came not Cormac free from sorrow :  
 after receiving the Truth (he affirmed it)  
 he found repose above limpid Boyne  
 on the shore at Rossnaree. 60

Cairpre Lifechair lies on thy soil,  
 Fiachu Sraptine noble and famous,  
 Muiredach Tírech from the Hill,  
 the king Eochu father of Niall.

There came not Niall (a cry that is not false) 65  
 unlucky for him the course he rowed !  
 after going seven times to Scotland  
 the place where his grave is was known.

Thereafter came the pure Faith  
 to Mag Fail, a law that came not too soon, 70  
 so that each lies in burial-grounds of holy men,  
 to sever them from iniquity and sin.

*rodfir*] LU ; notfir HS<sub>2</sub> ; nodfir *cæt.* 59. *ós*] I.U. ; ic, &c. BMS<sub>3</sub> ; a *cæt.*  
 60. *forsin*] LU ; acon S<sub>2</sub> ; isin *cæt.* 61. *fort*] LU ; art LRBH ; ard V ;  
 ar do S<sub>3</sub> ; ar S<sub>2</sub> ; ad M. 62. *Fiachu*] fiacra LU. *Sraptine rán*]  
 rán roiptine I.U. 63. *dimbri*] I.U. ; it tír, &c. RBV ; a tír, &c. MS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ;  
 athir H. 66.] so LU ; ro fess a luam [uam S<sub>2</sub> ; ruam (*with vel l superscr.*)  
 H] leth rola [rora M, *corr.* rola], &c. *cæt.* 67. *iarndul*] LU ; i cuaid H ;  
 rogabh M ; do chuaid *cæt.* eo] do LU. 70. *for*] LU ; co *cæt.* 71. *fail*  
*cach*] LU ; fail S<sub>2</sub> ; faillet, &c. *cæt.* i] it S<sub>2</sub>. 72. *scarad*] LU ; snadad,  
*cæt.* *fri—fri*] LU ; ar—ar RBV ; ar—'s ar MHS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>.

Focheil cúane calma cáin a mag mic in Dagda déin : ná dersat adrad Dé móir andso dóib hitát hi péin.	75
Iatsom dimbúan, tussu búan, immotréide cech slúag slán : iatsom dosrogáth a ngáes, tussu fogéba áes n-án.	80
Bóand bale roglas réil mana sechut la séil sláin cenn indais ui úabrig úaib Senbic a túaim immais áin.	Án-s.
Congalach col-lí cond fian, dían a buille, dond a dál : is búale rán-tor co rian, is cúane n-ard-chon, is áin.	85 Án-s.

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73-76] in LU only. 73. *calma*] *colma* LU. 75. *ná*] na LU. *dersat*] *read perhaps* *dersat*: see *Notes*. 77. *iat*] LU; *siat cat.* 78. *immo-*  
*tréide*] LU; *imdasraidhi* M; *amraidhit* S<sub>2</sub>; *imusraidi, cat.* 79. *iat*] LU;  
*siat cat.* *dosrogáth*] *ed.*, *dosrogáed* LU; *dosrúbaid* RB; *dosrulaid* S<sub>2</sub>V;

Thou hidest a brood bold and kind,  
 O plain of the son of the swift Dagda!  
 let men not punish the worship of the great God;  
 it is worse for them where they are in torment. 75

They are transient, thou abidest:  
 every believing band rides around thee:  
 as for them, their wisdom has befooled them;  
 thou shalt attain a noble age. 80

Boyne, a spot right green and bright,  
 an omen with sound . . . beside thee  
 . . . from you of the proud grandson  
 of Senbec from the stead of noble poesy.

Warlike and splendid is the centre of champions!  
 swift their stroke, noble their assembly!  
 it is a fold of glorious chieftains, with a track,  
 it is a kennel of high-bred whelps, it is glorious. 85

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dosruluaid H; dosrulluaidh M; rosroluaidh S<sub>2</sub>.      *a ngás*] *ed.*; a mbés LU;  
 in gæs, &c. *cæt.*      81-88] *in LU only.*      83. *úabrig*] *read perhaps Ebric*;  
*see Notes.*      87. *rán*] *ran LU.*      85. *colli*] *ed. culli LU.*

## BRUG NA BÓINDE II.

MACNIA MAC OENGUSA *cecinit.*

A chóemu Breg, bríg nad bréc,  
co rinnib reb, ríгда in rót :  
in eol dúib senchas cech thuir  
fuil sund i mBruig mic ind Óc ?

Fégaíd in síd ar bar súil, 5  
is fodeirc dúib, is treb ríг,  
rogníth lasin Dagda ndúr,  
ba dín, ba dún, amra bríg.

Fégaíd Imdai nDagđai deirg : 10  
forsind leirg, cen galmai ngairg ;  
rofer surge sóir iar seilg  
fri mnái cóim cen meirg cen mairg.

Fégaíd Dá Cích rígnai ind ríг 15  
sund iar síd fri síd-blai síar :  
áit rogénair Cermait cóem  
fégaíd for róen, ní céim cían :

Dia luid ben mic Námat náir 20  
i ndáil ar chend Dagđai déin,  
ocus in cú in a diaid,  
ciarbo thurus cian do chéin :

Dia luid Midir a Bri Léith  
fri tócbáil tréith, ba fó fríth :  
co tue mac ind Óc ónd áth  
co scíath 'na scáth, ciarbo scéith.

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LRBYMHS (81-end only) S<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. *Oengusa*] oenna R; oen B; aonagain H.  
1. *chóemu*] cām S<sub>2</sub>. 2. *rinnib*] raindib M. 6. *treib ríг*] tre brig R.  
7. *rogníth*] rognid RB; do gníth S<sub>2</sub>; rongní S<sub>3</sub>V. *lasin*] risin L; lasinin S<sub>2</sub>.  
*ndúr*] ndún (n *expunct.*) L; núr S<sub>2</sub>. 8. *bríg*] a bregh S<sub>2</sub>. 9. *imdai nDagđai*] L;  
imda in Dagđa, &c. *cæt.* *deirg*] ndeirg LS<sub>3</sub>. 10. *cen galmai*] foran galmagh R.  
11. *ro fher*] rob fherr, &c. MS<sub>2</sub>; robfear Y. *iar*] ar BR. *sóir*] soer, &c.  
LRMB; sair *cæt.* 12. *fri*] YS<sub>3</sub>; ria L; for *cæt.* *cóim*] cáin R.;



## BRUG NA BÓINDE II.

O nobles of Breg, a might that is not deceitful,  
with featful points (royal is the road):  
know ye the story of every lord  
that is here in the Brug of the Mac ind Oc ?

Behold the fairy mound before your eyes : 5  
it is plain for you to see, it is a king's dwelling,  
it was built by the harsh Dagda :  
it was a shelter, it was a keep renowned for strength.

Behold the Bed of the red Dagda : 10  
on the slope, without rough rigour ;  
he paid noble court after the chase  
to a fair woman free from eld and sorrow.

Behold the two Paps of the king's consort  
here beyond the mound west of the fairy mansion : 15  
the spot where Cermait the fair was born,  
behold it on the way, not a far step ;

Whither came the wife of the son of noble Nemed  
to a tryst to meet the swift Dagda,  
and her dog after her,  
though it was a long journey from afar : 20

Whither came Midir from Bri Leith  
to bear off the prince, it was a lucky find ;  
so he bore the Mac ind Oc from the ford  
with a shield in his protection, though he was weary.

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coem, &c., LB. . 14. *sídblaí*] *síthbla* RB; *sírbla* YS<sub>2</sub>. 15. *dít ro genair*] L; *airm i ngenair, &c. cæt.* 16. *for róen*] L; *maróen, &c. cæt. ní*] in RBS<sub>2</sub>; *an (with vel ní superscr.) Y. céim*] *om. S<sub>2</sub>.* 17. *dia*] *do S<sub>2</sub>; da M.*  
19. *in*] *a RBMS<sub>2</sub>.* 20. *thurus*] *theros LRM; theras Y.* 21. *dia*] *do*  
RHS<sub>2</sub>. 22. *toebáil*] LBM; *togail, &c. cæt.* *fú*] LV; *fou H; fo cæt.*  
23. *ind Óc*] *nOc LYH; in oic M; in oc, &c. cæt.*

Iarsain tucad, cialla cor, 25  
 in mac dia nói mbliadna mbil,  
 coa athair, ba cadla gair,  
 dia thaig cosin Dagda ndil.

Dogníth ergnam leis dond ríg 30  
 isin tsíd, tre brégrad mbúan,  
 de atá, ní ceist cen rún,  
 Duma Treisc ar súil na slúag.

Iarsin dlomais Dagda dúr 35  
 asa dún, nfb adba mbróin,  
 co mbái i n-Ochain, fecht co núaill,  
 iar n-othur slúgaig, iar n-úair óil.

Ferta Escláim, érimm sruith, 40  
 a telctís cesta fir maith,  
 fót co mbalc-raind, gním cen chleith,  
 do mac Calpraind ba rót raith.

In eol dúib Dere mBuaile bil  
 comarba fil immon mag,  
 asa n-ésib loimm lúath lib  
 a dig don tslúag, fiad glund glan.

In eol dúib Lecht Cellaig crúaid 45  
 co núaill ellaig, erctha gáeth :  
 atbath tre beirt láechda lúaitl,  
 dia mbói thúaitl for báethla báeth.

25. *cialla*] cialda M. cor] L; in cor, &c. *cæt.* 26. *in*] *om.* B. 27. *a*] *om.* BYM. 29. *dogníth*] dogníat S<sub>2</sub>. 30. *tre*] *fria* M. *mbúan*] buair L. 31. *de*] *desin* Y; is de M. *ní*] *om.* B; in S<sub>2</sub>. 32. *Treisc*] L; intreise, &c. HYV; in *treist* M; in *tres* RB; in *treisi* S<sub>2</sub>. *súil*] sur R; uil Y. 33. *Dagda*] in *Dagda* R (*corr.*) S<sub>2</sub>. *dúr*] ndúr LB. 34. *asa*] a sin Y; isin S<sub>2</sub>. *nib adba*] L; ba badba *cæt.* *mbróin*] L; bróin *cæt.* 35. *in Ochain*] oc Ocháin L; inacind' (*with* *anochain superser.*) Y; innochain S<sub>2</sub>; in Ochaind, &c. *cæt.* 36. *othur*] othrus R. *óil*] oir B. 37-40.] *not in* L. 37. *ferta*] *feit* H. 38. *a telctís*] in *t-eiges* B; hi *teilgdís*, &c. RYM. 40. *do*] di H; da M. 41-44.] *om.* S<sub>2</sub>.

Thereafter was brought, a clever compact, 25  
 the boy, on that day nine full years after  
 to his father, it was a short-lived joy,  
 to the loved Dagda at his house.

Entertainment was made by him for the King 30  
 in the mound by means of lasting deception ;  
 thence is [named],—it is not a question without a key—  
 Duma Treisc before the eyes of the hosts.

Thereafter the stern Dagda refused his request,  
 to whom belonged the keep, it was no abode of grief:— 35  
 so he dwelt in Ochan, a journey with lamentation,  
 after warlike labour, after a time of carousing.

The trench of Esclam, pilgrimage revered,  
 where good men used to cast questions :  
 a sword with a brave portion, a deed without concealment,  
 for the son of Calpurn it was a path of grace. 40

Know ye the Well of Bualc the good,  
 his successor throughout the plain,  
 from which he drew a draught . . . .  
 a drink for the host, in presence of a bright hero (?).

Know ye the Grave of grim Cellach 45  
 [surrounded] by wailing in unison, the breeze was filled  
 [with the sound]:  
 by a swift heroic pair he died,  
 when he was in the north on a foolish act unwise.

41. *mbuailc*] &c. HS<sub>3</sub>V; m̄ba Buile L; mBualc, &c. RB; mbuile Y; muaale M. *bil*] L; mil Y; mbil *cet.* 42. *comarba*] comsarba L; a comforba R; a comarba, &c. BYMH. *fil*] om. L. *imon*] imo B; fon M. 43. *asa*] asasa H. *éisib*] deisib, &c. RB; eibsib Y. *loimm*] luim L; lomm M; lom *cet.* *luath*] luaith L 44. *a dig don tsluag*] asanib dig M. *fiad glund*] B; fiad glonn H; fiad glun L; fidglun Y; fiaglunn R; fiaglond M; fiadhnglunn S<sub>3</sub>V. *glan*] nglan YM. 45. *crúaid*] cain (*with vel crú superscr.*) H. 46. *ntaill*] nuill R; naill B. *eretha*] ereda YH; ero S<sub>2</sub>. *gaeth*] gáith, &c. LYS<sub>2</sub>H. 47. *tre beirt*] tre beir L; tria beirt, &c. RBYS<sub>2</sub>H. 48. *dia mbói*] diai L; combói S<sub>2</sub>. *baethla*] lethblai L; baethbla, &c. MS<sub>2</sub>HS<sub>3</sub>V. *báeth*] báith, &c. LYS<sub>2</sub>; mbáeth H.

In eól dúib Lecht Gabra ind rí  
 Cinaeda cen galma ngáid ; 50  
 ruc búaid a siblachaib sréin  
 do réir mic Irgalaig áin.

A Cír a Currel na mná,  
 cia bale itá cechtar de,  
 meraid ó 'ndiu co tí bráth ; 55  
 ní ba messu ar chách a ngné.

Fégaid lib, ba bág cech báird,  
 ba fert fir áin, fuaim cen meirg,  
 forglitís iath ngáela gairg,  
 síd Æda Lurnig for leirg. 60

And dogníth rúamna dia thríath  
 for cúan-bla cliach ocus crích ;  
 ba h-ed slóg-dígal na túath,  
 Mórrígan múad áitt i mbíth.

In eól dúib tre gnímrad ngnáth, 65  
 fri fáth fir-glan, fichtib tríath,  
 iath n-acht-glan i mbáatar scéith,  
 Carcar ind Léith i mbái in Liath.

In eól dúib tre chátha cend  
 in glend i mbíd Mátha mall ? 70  
 robíth iar n-inriud slóg seing ;  
 dogníth mór do imniud and.

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50. *Cinaeda*] cináeth S<sub>2</sub>. cen] con Y. galma] calma Y. rigaid] L ;  
 ngráin H ; gráin, &c. cæt. 51. ruc] tuc S<sub>2</sub>M. siblachaib]  
 siublachaib RS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. 54. cia] ciap B. bale] bail MH.  
 cechtar] centar B ; gantar M. 55. meraid o ndiu] L ; is dóig mberaid Y ;  
 is dóig meraid, &c. cæt. bráth] in bráth, S<sub>2</sub> : brach R. 56. ba] L ;  
 om. cæt. ar chách] sa cach, &c. YMHS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> (see Notes). 57. ba bág]  
 fa bad Y ; fadhbaigh S<sub>2</sub> ; ba baid M. báird] dind L. 58. fuaim]  
 uaim S<sub>2</sub>. 59. forglitís iath] furgliadh a sídh S<sub>2</sub>. gairg] L ; ngaire H ; ngairg  
 cæt. 61. and] L ; tan cæt. dogníth] dogníd L. 62. cuanbla] cuan bladh S<sub>2</sub>.  
 cliach] cliath H ; sciath S ; sciath (with vel cliach superscr.) Y. 64. mórrígan]

Know ye the Grave of the Horse of the king,  
Cinaed free from rigour of need? 50  
he bore off victory from fleet ones of the bridle  
at the will of the son of noble Irgalach.

The Comb, the Coral of the woman,  
in whatever place each of them is,  
it shall abide till the Doom come; 55  
their beauty shall not grow less and less.

Behold before you—it was the boast of every bard,  
it was the grave of a noble man, fame without decay—  
they celebrated the meadow-land of a fierce slaying (?)—  
the mound of Aed Lurgnech on the hill-slope. 60

There was caused bloodshed by its chief  
upon the resort of ridges and territories:  
that was a general vengeance of the tribes  
in the place where the great Morrigan was smitten.

Know ye for noted deeds, 65  
with true-clear learning, with scores of chiefs,  
the plain of bright actions, where shields used to be,  
the Prison of the Grey, where the Grey Steed was?

Know ye by the refuse of heads  
the Glen where the sluggish Matha dwelt? 70  
it was slain after the incursion of lithe hosts:  
much havoc was wrought there.

mon rigi S<sub>2</sub>; morghlana M.      *miad*] ruadh L; mbuaidh S<sub>2</sub>.      *áitt*] L;  
airm *cæt.*      *i mbíth*] i mbid LS<sub>3</sub>V; a frith M.      65. *eól*] *om.* B.      *tre*]  
tria MH.      *ngnáth*] ngæth M.      66. *nacht*] L; nac R; nach BS<sub>2</sub>:  
dat H; ndath, &c. YMS<sub>3</sub>V.      *scéith*] *om.* S<sub>2</sub>.      68. *i mbái in*] imbái  
L: uman M.      69. *eól*] *om.* B.      *tre*] tria RBYH; tri S<sub>2</sub>M.      *chátha*] *ed.*  
chatha, &c. LYHS<sub>2</sub>; cáta R; chata, &c. BS<sub>3</sub>V; cath M.      70. *mbíd*] mbai, &c.  
RB; mbít Y; mbith S<sub>2</sub>; mid M.      *Mátha*] matha LS<sub>2</sub>; in mada S<sub>3</sub>V; mata *cæt.*  
71. *ro bíth*] do bid S<sub>2</sub>; nobith R.      *inriud*] indred B; indrad Y.      *slóg*]  
RBM; sluaig *cæt.*      72. *do gnith*] dognid dognid L; rognith RB; dognid M.  
*do imniud*] dimniud L.

Iarsin tictís, gním cen chleith,  
 ind ríg dia leith ó thír thoich,  
 do descin in Máthai múaid, 75  
 co cland cách fair crúaid a chloich.

Clandais Buide a liic laind  
 'sind raind forsbíd Suide Find :  
 fácaib fiad churib na nglend  
 a chend for Maig Murid mind. 80

Iarsin lótar Ulaid uill  
 Leth cubaid Cuinn ar a chend,  
 do gleic fri nert Máthai maill,  
 combrúithe a baill for Liic Bend.

Doringned leo duma ndúr 85  
 do múr for enámaib in míl :  
 ba hé in coscur, fecht co núaill,  
 rothecht fri búaid ocus brig.

Caisel n-Oengussa cen chol,  
 Airther n-Oenlussa rodlen : 90  
 mic Crundmáil forsndessid cin  
 dia n-essib mid corbo mer.

Forsin Róot rígda in gleó  
 in mic Óoc, cid dia mbói ?  
 dia robriss súil Midir múaid, 95  
 in fail úaib nech asidchói ? A.

73. *cleith*] clith B. 74. *ind ríg dia leith*] om. L; in ríg ar leth S<sub>2</sub>; na rígh dia leith, &c. S<sub>3</sub>V; in ri dia leith RBY; and ri dia leth H. ó] dia L; oa H.  
 75. *descin*] feachsain S<sub>2</sub>. mátha] matha LS<sub>2</sub>; mada MS<sub>3</sub>V; mata oet.  
 76. *cland*] clannad R. fair] om. L; fir S<sub>2</sub>; fer R; uair M. a] fair R; o B.  
 77. *clandais buide*] lintais uile L. a liic] alsag (with vel alig superser.) Y; abraig M; alsat S<sub>2</sub>. laind] lind S<sub>2</sub>M; lind (with luind superser.) Y; luind H.  
 78. *raind*] rind YS<sub>2</sub>; druim S<sub>3</sub>; rannlind M. forsbíd] twice L; forsbái, &c. RBH; forsbith S<sub>3</sub>; ambidh S<sub>2</sub>; forsmæ M. 79. *cuirib*] cuibrib, &c. BM; curid R. na nglend] om. L. 80. *for*] ar Y. maig] mac HV.  
 Murid] Murida L. 81. *uill*] il L. 82. *Cuinn*] om. L. 83. *do gleic*]

Thereafter came (a deed without concealment),  
 the kings from a pleasant land on account of him,  
 to view the vast Matha, 75  
 and each planted on him pitilessly his stone.

Buide planted his keen stone  
 in the portion which is called Finn's Seat :  
 in presence of the hosts of the glens he left  
 his head on the plain of Muired Mend. 80

Thereafter came the mighty Ulstermen  
 (Conn's proper Share) against him,  
 to strive with the might of the sluggish Matha  
 so his limbs were broken on Lecc Bend.

A solid barrow was built by them 85  
 for a rampart over the bones of the beast :  
 that was the trophy, a fight with lamentation,  
 which it possessed with victory and might.

The wall of Oengus the blameless,—  
 ([the name] Airther Oenlussa clave to it,—) 90  
 the son of Crundmael on whom fell guilt,  
 when he had drunk mead till he was mad.

Royal the contest at the Cast  
 of the Mac ind Oc—whence did it arise ?  
 when the eye of mighty Midir was broken : 95  
 is there any of you who can recount it ?

glend L. *máthai*] matha S<sub>2</sub>; máta YR; mada M; mata *cæt.* 84. *baill*] mboill Y.  
*lic*] L; lic R; leic *cæt.* *Bend*] mBend S<sub>3</sub>. 85 *ndúr*] *om.* L; núr S<sub>2</sub>.  
 86. *do múr*] ndrena (*with vel dremur superscr.*) L. 87. *nuail*] nuall LSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>;  
 naill B. 88. *fri*] ri L; for S<sub>2</sub>. 89. *cen*] *om.* L. 90. *airthir*] athese  
 L; airthír Y; airthir H; ardior S<sub>3</sub>. *oen lussa*] enlussa B. *rodlen*] rod  
 rodlen I; rotlen H; ro lean Y. 91. *dessid*] essid B; eissead Y; edsiudh, &c.  
 MS; deisib R. *cin*] sin HS<sub>2</sub>; sin (*with vel cin in margin*) Y. 92. *essib*]  
 desib R. 93. *forsin*] ní L. *gleó*] geo B. 94. *in*] i B; *om.* S. *Ooc*] an  
 oog S. *cid*] ced L. *mbói*] bóí L. 96. *fail úaib nech*] fuilneach uaib Y.  
*asidchói*] assidchoi, &c. LS<sub>2</sub>M; asatcaí R; asaidcaí B; isadcaí, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>V; isidcaí S.

## INBER N-AILBINE.

A fhiru Muirid, miad ngle,  
do nach tuirim tailmire,  
ráidfed frib im threbthus te  
senchus n-aithglic n-Ailbine.

Bái riam fri rót-bla rorá 5  
uas Fótla cen fodála :  
ba lúam cech líg-druing fria lá  
Rúad mac Ríghuind rodána.

Riacht réimraith, roga cen raind, 10  
dar muing maith mora moch-maill,  
d'acallaim a charat Gaill :  
ba réim rabalc co Lochlaind.

Luid tri nóithib, noithech glé,  
ba soithech co sír-gairge : 15  
sochtsat, duba domna de,  
for formna na fír-fairge.

Femidset lúd as nach leth,  
robo dúr in dron-fuirech ;  
isin muir múad már cen meth 20  
doluid Rúad rán roguinech.

---

RBYMHSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. 1. *fhiru*] fíora H. 2. *tailmire*] tailmhiri M ;  
toilmhire, &c. S<sub>3</sub>V ; tuilmire, &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>H ; talmire R ; taimire B. 3. *frib*]  
daib RB. *im*] am HS<sub>3</sub> ; cen, &c. *cæt.* *threbthus*] trebthus, &c. *codd.*  
*te*] de RBYMS<sub>3</sub>V. 4. *naitghlic*] ndaithglic R. 5. *ro rá*] rogha SS<sub>2</sub> ;  
rorádh R. 6. *fodala*] fologha S. 7. *fria*] re B ; fri YS<sub>2</sub>. 8. *duind*]  
druing BM. 9. *riacht*] recht RBS<sub>2</sub>V ; riacht S<sub>3</sub> ; racht M. *raind*]  
rinn, &c. SM. 10. *moch*] mor S<sub>2</sub>. 11. *gaill*] goill RYHS. 12. *bá*]



## INBER N-AILBINE.

O men of Muired, bright honour  
among any headstrong company !  
I shall tell you in my warm dwelling  
the cunning story of Ailbine.

There was once [a prince] famed for travel who rowed 5  
north of undivided Ireland :  
he was pilot of every brilliant band in his day,  
Ruad son of valiant Rigdonn.

He fared on a lucky journey, a choice without dispute,  
over the goodly mane of the sea early and late ; 10  
to converse with his friend the Norseman,  
a right brave journey it was to Norway.

He came with three boats, splendid and bright,  
it was a vessel ever terrible ;  
they stopped short (the deeper dole !)  
on the shoulders of the open sea. 15

They had no power to stir on any side,  
firm was the strong durance :  
into the mighty main without shrinking  
went noble Ruad the smiter. 20

fa Y.     *rabale*] YM ; rabaile B ; robaile R ; robale *cæt.*     13. *nóithib*] noitib  
RB ; næithe YS<sub>2</sub> ; naithe, &c. SS<sub>3</sub> ; noite H ; noiche M.     *noithech*] othech  
S<sub>2</sub> ; næthech S.     14. *soithech*] soigteac B ; sæthrach Y ; sætrach SS<sub>2</sub>.  
*sír*] sith RB.     15. *duba*] doba H ; dobo S<sub>2</sub>.     *domna*] domnu RYM.  
17. *femidset*] femid B ; feimdis M.     *lúð as*] luth ar YS ; lathar S<sub>2</sub> ; lúth as, &c.  
*cæt.*     *nach*] each, &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>M.     *robo dúr*] robádur R.     18. *dron*] droch RBS<sub>2</sub>.  
*fuirech*] suideach M.     19. *isin*] forsin YSS<sub>2</sub>.     20. *-guinech*] fhuilech R.

O mosláí dia tairdbe tra  
dar sál fairge sruth-sóeba,  
fuair, i sain-delgna rosná,  
nóí mbain-delba dluth-chóema.

Ráidset ris tre gle-alt nglan 25  
ba hed . . . fodroirgetar

. . . . .  
. . . . .  
. . . . .  
. . . . .

a nónbur ban búadach bil 30  
bá crúadach a n-indsaigid.

Fois nóí n-oidche lasna mna  
cen doirche cen dér-guba,  
fon fairge cen tonna tra  
for nóí longa créduma.

Ciarbo halacht ben díb de  
(robo malart mithise)  
luid uadib cen chísal clé 40  
co tísad afrithise.

O rafáid co muintir múaid  
ráid fri tuintib a throm-slúaig :  
ba soalt sochlaind ní súail  
co toracht Lochlaind lonn-gluair.

21. *mosláí*] *ed.* mosluid Y (*originally* moluaid) H; musluidh S<sub>3</sub>V; moluidh S<sub>2</sub>; doluidh S; moluaid RBM. *tairdbe*] hairdbe, &c. Y (*with t added later*) SS<sub>2</sub>.  
22. *dar sál fairge*] *ed.* fairgi tar sal, &c. RBMHS<sub>3</sub>; tar fairgi sal, &c. YS<sub>2</sub>V; tar fairgi sáil S. *sruth-saeba*] sroth-saoba H; saebtshrotha S<sub>2</sub>; saebstrotha, &c. *cæt.*  
23. *i sain-delgna*] *ed.* in sandelgna RB; in saindelcca H; in saindealgna, &c. S<sub>3</sub>V; isindelgna, &c. YMSS<sub>2</sub>. *rosná*] rosna *codd.* 24. *mbain*] H; mná SS<sub>2</sub>; mbna M; mban RBYS<sub>3</sub>V. *delba*] delbda BYS<sub>3</sub>; remhra S. *dluth*] RB; dath Y; deagh S<sub>2</sub>; ro MHSS<sub>3</sub>V. 25-32.] *om.* S<sub>2</sub>. 25. *tre*] tria YMS<sub>3</sub>V; fria S. *nglan*] *om.* B. 26. *hed*] hét R; het B; he fhad M; ead (*with two letters obliterated*) Y; heat H; héat S<sub>3</sub>V. *A syllable appears to be wanting. Read perhaps* ba hé fast: *see Notes.* *fodroirgetar*] fodroirngertar R; foruirgetar H; rodfuirgidar S; rofuirgeadar Y; fotoirgeadar M. 27-30.] *Four lines*

When he hastened to cut loose the ship in truth  
through the salt depths of the sea's treacherous waters,  
he found, in the secret spot he swam to,  
nine female forms, fair and firm.

They said to him in pure clear strains 25  
this it was that delayed him :

: . . . . .  
. . . . .  
. . . . .  
. . . . .

nine women of them, excellent and strong ; 30  
hard it was to approach them.

He slept nine nights with the women  
without gloom, without tearful lament,  
under the sea free from waves 35  
on nine beds of bronze.

Though a woman of them was with child by him,  
—it was a disfigurement of a little space—  
he departed from them without wrongful offence (?)  
on condition that he should come back again. 40

When she had let him go to his noble comrades,  
he rowed with the companies (?) of his strong host :  
it was a happy start, . . . no short space  
till he reached Norway of pure valour.

*scem to have dropped out : see Notes.*

ouonmur M ; a nonmur HS<sub>3</sub>V ; inænmar Y. 31. *in nonbur*] o nonbur B ;  
ban] om. Y ; ba R. buadach] buadh R. 32. *cruadach*] cruadbach, &c. YHSS<sub>3</sub>V ; cradhaeh M.  
*a n-indsaigid*] &c. HS ; anindsaidig Y ; inindsaigid, &c. cat. 38. *fois*] faoi.  
H ; fais (with idh 'superscr.') S. 34. *doirche*] dairchi Y ; dairci M ; dairti  
RB ; dairthe &c. SS<sub>2</sub>. 36. *longa*] longaib RBS<sub>2</sub>.  
38. *malart*] malairt HS<sub>2</sub> ; maralt RBM. 39. *chisal*] chisa S ; cisiu S<sub>2</sub>.  
*cle*] gle Y ; ngle HS<sub>3</sub>V ; de S. 40. *afrihise*] aridhise S ; arigisi S<sub>2</sub> ;  
doriáise Y. 41. *rafáid*] ed. rofáidh, &c. RS<sub>3</sub>V ; rofaid BYMH ; rofáidh,  
&c. SS<sub>2</sub>. co] co a B. 42. *ráid*] ruadh SS<sub>2</sub>. 43. *soall*] om. R.  
*sochlaind*] soclaind RBS<sub>2</sub> ; soclóinn S<sub>3</sub> ; so chluaiug S. 44. *lonnghuair*].  
longbuain S.

O rancadar dar sál sair 45  
 co n-ád is co n-oll-bladaib,  
 anait secht mbliadna ar blaid  
 ic a charait comramaig.

Cechaing iarom Rúad na renn 50  
 tar srothaib, fial-mod fég-seng,  
 anair dar muir tríath-glan tend,  
 co toracht íath-mag n-Érend.

Eismech robói in rí co recht,  
 nírbo deis-breth ná daig-bert;  
 cen dul co mná tar sruth slecht 55  
 in cruth cétna rothairngert.

Tan rogab triath-tuirid tess 60  
 i n-iath Muirid na mag-les,  
 co crúad-chalad, clú cen ches,  
 rochúaladar in arm-gres.

Amrán sin na mban-ón binn,  
 tria glan-rád nglan-óg nguth-binn,  
 ic tetarracht Rúaid co rinn  
 tar srúaim setal-balc sruth-glinn.

Seólsat curchán, créd nad clé, 65  
 nír dub-chlár dér drongdige,  
 a nónbur garg grinn-gel glé  
 i n-Inber n-ard n-Ollbine.

46. *co n-ád*] conad, &c. BY; conar M; conágh, &c. *cæt.* 47. *ar bluid*] comblaid S; for blaid M; iarsin S<sub>2</sub>. 48. *comramaig*] comradaig, &c. RB.  
 49. *renn*] rann Y; rand MSS<sub>2</sub>. 50. *fial-mod*] S<sub>3</sub>V; fialmo RY; fialmac BM; fialmag H; falma SS<sub>2</sub>. 51. *fég-seng*] fedeng, &c. YMS. 52. *toracht*] rainic S<sub>2</sub>. 53. *iath-mag*] iartur S<sub>2</sub>; iathmag in M. 54. *co*] *om.* RBV; re M. 54. *breth*] bert Y. 55. *cen*] co S<sub>2</sub>. 56. *dul*] dal Y. 57. *co*] do S<sub>2</sub>.  
 57. *tuirid*] tured, &c. RBM. 58. *tess*] des RB; tass H; thés S<sub>2</sub>. 58. *Muirid*] mured, &c. RBM. 59. *co crúad*] erichad M. 60. *ro*] co S<sub>2</sub>; da M.  
 61. *amrán*] amband (*with* vel *abran in margin*) S; amra and S<sub>2</sub>. 61. *mban*]

When they arrived in the east across the sea 45  
with luck and with high renown,  
they remain seven years seeking fame  
with his friend triumphant.

Thereafter Ruad of the spears went his way  
across the waters, the noble youth keen and slender, 50  
from the east over the strong pure billows of the sea,  
till he reached the level plain of Erin.

False was the lawful prince :  
it was no right judgment nor honourable act,  
not to go to the women across the smooth water, 55  
in the same way as he promised.

When the lordly chieftain touched land southward  
at the plain of Muired of the lowland steads  
with unclouded fame for stern strength,  
men heard the martial strain. 60

That was the song of those tuneful women  
in their pure mellow sweet-sounding speech,  
as they pursued Ruad with the spear point  
over the impetuous clear-streaming tide.

They sailed a boat of flawless metal, 65  
(it was no . . . black hull of mourning)  
nine of them, fierce, radiant, and bright,  
to high Inber Ailbine.

mna S<sub>2</sub>; man M.      ón] ogh S.      binn] mbinn HSS<sub>3</sub>; mbend Y; beind M; linn R; rind S<sub>2</sub>.      62. tria] tre MH.      nglan] glan S; om. S<sub>2</sub>.  
-óg] od, &c. YS<sub>2</sub>.      63. tetarracht] techtairrecht S; techttareas S<sub>2</sub>;  
eatarracht M.      64. sruaim] sruth SS<sub>2</sub>.      setal-balc] sidhal balc S<sub>2</sub>; sidhal  
bhalb S.      -glind] binn R.      65. cred nad cle] cerd nad gle S; cen ceilg  
dhe S<sub>2</sub>; eriad ni cle M.      66. ní] ní YSS<sub>2</sub>.      der] dær MSS<sub>2</sub>.  
drongáige] drongaide Y; drongaidhi S<sub>2</sub>; drongaige S; drong daighe M.  
67. a] om. RB.      griungel] gliungel R; grindglan MS<sub>2</sub>.

Olc-gním rogene andsin  
 ben dfb cen ere n-essil, 70  
 marbad maic Rúaid co mblait bil  
 ocus a maic fodessin.

Erchor don mac mó each cair  
 (ba treb-chol dó for talmáin)  
 rolá amach tria cacad cain 75  
 conidn-apat cen anmain.

And asbert slúag son-ard-se  
 rothecht Rúad rogarg rige  
 uili cen chond im glonn nglé  
 "Ba holl, ba holl in bine!" 80

Desin atá, tairm cen tnú,  
 a hainm, ní do dailb didu,  
 na haba, nad celam elú,  
 feib adberam a firu. A F.

Mad ainm for maige, míad n-ait, 85  
 gairm cían cen chaire comraic,  
 ráiter ón tuiredach tailc  
 ó Muiredach mac Cormaic.

Nó mad ferr la tuaichliu tra  
 sell fri buaibthiu bladmara, 90  
 ráidfit Builiath, báí nad ba,  
 ó Muiriath mnái Labrada.

69. *rogene*] rodgene, &c. YS<sub>3</sub>; rógéne V; dogeine H; rogniadh S; doronad S<sub>2</sub>.  
 70. *ere*] era HS<sub>3</sub>V; erim Y (*originally* eri); eirghe S<sub>2</sub>. *n-essil*] deisil S<sub>2</sub>;  
 reisil M. 71. *marbad*] marbaid M. *blait*] blait MH; bloid Y; bladn S;  
 blaidh S<sub>2</sub>HS<sub>3</sub>. 73. *cair*] coir Y. 74. *treb-chol*] tre achar S<sub>2</sub>.  
*dó*] tó, &c. RBS<sub>3</sub>V. 75. *rola*] dala M. *imach*] a mac MS. *tria*]  
 tre RBS<sub>2</sub> *cacad*] caca H; cagad BMS; cogad S<sub>2</sub>. 76. *conidnapad*]  
 conadabadh, &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; conatnabadh M; conatnapai H. 77. *and*]  
 andsin R. *sonard-se*] nasard de S<sub>2</sub>. 78. *ro thecht*] ro gab S<sub>2</sub>; re techt  
 RM (*altered to ro*). *rigi*] ridhe H. 79. *cen*] nir SS<sub>2</sub>. *im*] an YSS<sub>2</sub>.  
*glonn nglé*] an glonn gle (*in litura*) Y; gnim gle, &c. SS<sub>2</sub>. 81. *tnu*] tru RBMS<sub>2</sub>-

An evil deed then wrought  
 a woman of them, with no unconscious burden,  
 even the slaying of the son of Ruad strong and good,  
 and her very own son. 70

[She made] a cast with her son, worse than any crime,  
 (it was a stain on his house for him on earth)  
 she hurled [him] out in fair combat 75  
 so that he died the death.

Then said that loud-voiced host,  
 whom fierce Ruad . . . possessed,  
 all of them astounded at the open crime  
 " Dreadful, dreadful was the deed ! " 80

Hence comes (a title free from envy)  
 the name (not in deceit however)  
 of the river, whose fame we conceal not,  
 even as we tell you, O men !

If the name of your plain (pleasant pride !)  
 be the title long free from blame of combat, 85  
 let it be called from the stout pillar  
 Muiredach son of Cormac.

Or if the instructed prefer  
 [to have] an eye to glorious deeds of pride, 90  
 they shall call it Builiath, a good that is not dumb,  
 from Moriath wife of Labraid.

82. *nido*] HY; *nidu* RB; *aniu*, &c. MSS<sub>2</sub>; *nita* S<sub>3</sub>; *nida* V. *dailb didu*  
*dailbineu* S; *dailbiu* M; *dalbhdiu* S<sub>3</sub>V. 83. *na*] *ainm* S; *ba* M. *aba*  
*adba*, &c. MS<sub>2</sub>. *celam*] *celim*, &c. HS<sub>2</sub>. 84. *adberam*] *adberim* S<sub>2</sub>.  
 85. *nait*] *nacht* S. 89. *la*] *lat* S<sub>2</sub>. *tuaichliu*] *tuaifhcliu* R;  
*tuaichle*, &c. S<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V; *tuaiclu* M. *tra*] *tre* B. 90. *fri*] *for* H; *fria* M.  
*buaibhthiu*] *buaibhtiu* H (*altered*); *buaithbiu* RB; *buaidhthiu* YS; *buaitre* S<sub>2</sub>;  
*buaitriu* M; *buaidfi* S<sub>3</sub>V. 91. *raidfi*] *raidfid*, &c. RS<sub>3</sub>V; *raidfed*, &c. YH;  
*raid fri* S<sub>2</sub>. *bái nad bá*] *boi anadhba* S<sub>2</sub>.

Labraid loingsech co n-úath alt  
 tadchaid, túath toimsech tlacht-balc :  
 fi feb fuil-iath, fer co facht,  
 ba hí a ben Muiriath maedacht.

95

Muiriath mór rodlecht mo dú,  
 co slóg roslecht a fidu :  
 tan rothriallad nírbo thrú,  
 mar adfiadar, a fíru.

100

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94. *tadchaid*] B; *tadclaid* Y; *tadclraith* H; *tadcloidh* S; *tadclóich* S<sub>2</sub>;  
*tachlaidh* M; *taga* R; *tadhglraith* S<sub>3</sub>V. 95. *f]* *faoi* H; *fri* RSS<sub>2</sub>.  
*fuiliath*] *fuilliath* R; *fuilliat* B; *foliath* YSS<sub>2</sub>. *fer]* *fri* M. *facht]* *fecht* RS<sub>2</sub>.



Labraid the Mariner with terrible limbs  
 came with a huge mail-clad people,  
 . . . the bloody plain, a man of war : 95  
 she was his wife, the youthful Moriath.

Moriath, great honour she deserved about the spot  
 with the host that cleared her woods :  
 when she visited it, she brought no ill luck,  
 as is related, O men ! 100

96. *ba hi*] hi B ; is a M.      *macdacht*] macacht RH ; maecht M.      98. *ro*] re RB.      99. *ro*] no M.      *triallad*] triall S<sub>2</sub>.      *nirbo*] nibo YS.  
 100. *adfiadar*] dofiadfraid R ; dofiadar BMS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>.

## OCHAN.

CINAED ÚA HARTACÁN *cecinit.*

- Déccid ferta níthaig Néill  
 ós lecht fir déin díchmaig dúir :  
 sund for ur slige na slúag  
 rogab lige n-úar i n-úir.
- Níall mac Echach, assa lecht, 5  
 luid fo secht tar trethan tricht :  
 roreraig comarbas Cuind  
 co ngaet ós muing mara hIcht.
- Dia ráid in drong dúr din múr  
 “ Ail dún descin ríg nondlig,” 10  
 atracht in mál súas iarsein,  
 in gein ba huallchu fo nim.
- Eochu, ba hed ainm ind fir  
 de Lagnib lir, lám co neim ;  
 i tóeb Néill co ngúalaind glain 15  
 sadis fiad na slúagaib sleig.
- Cid ruc in Lagnech inund  
 fri báig Saxan ngalbech ngand  
 guin ind ríg dond imram oll,  
 ingnad glond dorigned and. 20
- Tan nosticed eith nó chrúas  
 tócabtha súas, serig dúis :  
 ba fir flatha iar ndáil báis :  
 maidm secht catha rena gnúis.

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LRBYMHSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. *Cinaed úa Hartacán*] L only. 1. *fer*] fert in YHS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ;  
 fir i S. 2. *lecht fir*] &c. SS<sub>2</sub> ; leachtaigh M ; lettir, &c. *cæt.* 3. *sund for ur*]  
 sunna for Y ; sund for S<sub>2</sub>. 4. *n-úar*] uar LB. 5. *assa*] isa YHMSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>.  
 6. *tricht*] trice L. 7. *roreraig*] coriaraidh S<sub>2</sub>. 8. *con*] ro B. *muing*]  
 tuind M. *mara*] mar h- H. 9. *ráid*] ráded L ; raidhi RM ; raidid YS ;  
 raidhit S<sub>2</sub> ; raidhe S<sub>3</sub>. *in*] om. YS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. *din*] di L ; do S<sub>2</sub>. *mur*] LS<sub>2</sub> ;  
 muir *cæt.* 10. *ail*] áill L. *ríg*] in rig L. *nondlig*] rondlig RBMYHS<sub>3</sub> ;  
 rodlig, &c. SS<sub>2</sub>. 11. *iarsein*] arsain B. 12. *ba*] js M ; bat S<sub>3</sub>.  
 13. *hed*] LH ; he *cæt.* 15. *con*] coa RS<sub>3</sub>. *glain*] L ; gil RS<sub>3</sub> ; ngil *cæt.*

## OCHAN.

Behold the martial trench of Niall  
over the grave of a man keen, . . . , strong  
here, by the side of the track of the hosts  
he found a cold couch in the soil.

Niall, son of Eochu, whose is the grave, 5  
went seven times swiftly across the main ;  
he ruled the heritage of Conn  
till he was slain above the surf of the Ictian sea.

When the grim folk said from the rampart,  
" We desire to look on the king that owns us," 10  
uprose thereupon the prince erect,  
the being that was proudest under heaven.

Eochu, that was the name of the man  
of the numerous Leinstermen, a hand of venom ;  
in the side of Niall, the white-shouldered, 15  
he lodged his spear, in presence of the hosts.

Though the Leinsterman achieved yonder,  
in concert with the violent grasping Saxons,  
the slaying of the king after his great voyage,  
strange the wonder that was wrought there. 20

Whenas trouble or danger came upon them  
he would be raised aloft (potent the treasure) :  
it was a true king's act after doom of death,  
the breaking of seven battles before his face.

16. *fiad na*] fiadh ua M ; fiána S. *sluagaib*] sluaga Y. 18. *fri báig*] ri báig L ;  
fri baid B ; a mbaig, &c. RYHS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ; in baigh S ; combaid M. *ngalbeck*] nailbech M.  
19. *dond inram*] dind iram R ; di amram B ; ba himrall S<sub>2</sub>. 20. *glond*] in  
glonn, &c. RMH. *doringned*] doigneadh B ; rognid R ; dognidh M. 21. *Tan*]  
in tan L. *nosticed*] dosfiged, &c. RBMS<sub>3</sub> ; doficed H ; . . ficed Y ; rosfighed,  
&c. SS<sub>2</sub>. *cith*] L ; cath *cet*. 22. *tocabtha*] ba tocabtha L ; doguibthea S ;  
tocbaidis S<sub>2</sub> ; tocfaithea M. *serig*] L ; seric (*with* vel *seg ric superser.*) B ;  
sethnach, &c. YHSS<sub>3</sub> ; seirech, RMS<sub>2</sub>. *dúis*] tuis YHSS<sub>2</sub>.

Fírían-focul atbert Níall, 25  
 dia ngaet forsín rian tria rún,  
 áitt i clanta ilad Néill,  
 co teilctís a géill for cúl.

Aire-sin roléicthea ass  
 dar gáeth-rian nglass, trom a thress, 30  
 géill Saxan, ba mór-dál mass,  
 géill Fhranc, géill Rómán andes.

Lótar asin Temraig síar  
 fían a theglaig trelmaig tréin :  
 ba de bóí iar mbaisse brón 35  
*Ochan* mór muntire Néill.

Celebrais i n-Ochain aird  
 cách diaraile, aidble uird,  
 Lagin, Mumain, rodasní,  
 Connaicht, Ulaid, fir lí is luirg. 40

Láech dosrimthais, ropu rí ;  
 nírb fand a chlí for bith-ché ;  
 ba suail do Níall, násad dín,  
 co toracht creitem dil Dé. D.

Rannsadar a maic iarsin 45  
 inis n-Airt, ba hamra fir ;  
 is dóib dobertar a ngéill,  
 céin beti neóil im gréin ngil.

25. *Firían*] fir in, &c. YMSS<sub>2</sub>. 26. *rian*] rian muir L.; trian M.  
*tria*] cen LS<sub>2</sub>. 27. *áitt*] &c. LMS<sub>2</sub>; airm *cæt.* *i clanta*] a clannfai H;  
 a clanfa S<sub>3</sub>; a claita S<sub>2</sub>. *ilad*] ilaig, &c. YS<sub>3</sub>; iolach H. 28. *co teilctís*]  
 collingtís L. *ngéill*] gell B; geill RMS<sub>2</sub>. *for*] L; ar *cæt.* 29. *aire*]  
 aræ YS; arai S<sub>2</sub>; ar M. *ro léicthea*] ra leicthea L; tarlaicthi, &c. *cæt.*  
 30. *gaeth*] ngaeth RY; angaeth H. *rian*] LH; *om. cæt.*: see Notes. *nglas*]  
 glass BMS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. *trom*] ed. ba trom *codd.* 31. *mass*] om. L. 35. *bóí*]  
 bóe L. *iar mbaisse*] iar masse L; iarm'aise Y; iar mbraisi, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>.  
*brón*] mbroin YSS<sub>3</sub>; broin BS<sub>2</sub>H. 36. *mór*] moir, &c. BYMS<sub>3</sub>.

A just word spake Niall, 25  
 when he was slain on the sea by stealth,  
 in the spot where Niall's tomb was built,  
 that their hostages should be dismissed homeward.

Thereafter they were sent free  
 over the green stormy sea (wild its warfare) 30  
 hostages of the Saxons (they were a great and comely company)  
 hostages of the Franks, hostages of the Romans from the south.

Westward from Tara came  
 the warrior band of his warlike powerful retinue :  
 thence was called, after grief and beating of breasts, 35  
 great Ochan of the following of Niall.

There parted in high Ochan  
 one from another the noblest in rank,  
 Leinstermen, Munstermen, (he caused them grief)  
 men of Connaught, men of Ulster, famous men and troops. 40

A hero united them, who was king ;  
 not weak was his frame in this world :  
 it was a short space from Niall (his fame was a shelter)  
 till came the blessed Faith of God.

His sons thereafter divided 45  
 the island of Art, who was a wonder of a man,  
 it is to them their hostages shall be given  
 so long as clouds shall be round the white sun.

37. *celebrais*] celebrad BYMSS<sub>3</sub>; celebrait, &c. RH; ceilebradh S<sub>2</sub>. 38. *aidble*] aible, &c. BYM. 39. *rodasni*] rodadni L; rodusmairg S<sub>2</sub>. 40. *fir*] ic L. *lí is*] lis R. 41. *dosrimthais*] doremthus, &c. RB; doromtas M; dorimthus, &c. HSS<sub>2</sub>. 42. *nirb*] L; nirbo S<sub>2</sub>; nir *cæt.* *for*] ar YB. *chli*] thli M. *for*] ar RYS<sub>2</sub>. 43. *din*] L; ndin B; in din R; nin *cæt.* 44. *toracht*] LH; tarat S<sub>2</sub>; tardsat, &c. *cæt.* *dil Dé*] ndil nde RBMS. 45. *randsadar*] ronset L. 46. *fir*] LM; in fir BYSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; ind fhir RH. 47. *ngéill*] gell H. 48. *céin beti*] &c., LR; gein bai M; gen bed, &c. *cæt.* *neóil*] &c. LR; aniuil, &c. BHSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; aneill Y; teimel M. *im*] in B.

Dá Chonall, Eogan atúaid,  
 Fiachu, Cairpre, Mane mín, 50  
 Enna, ba hóen-baile in tslúraig,  
 gabais Lóegaire do rí.

Rí dosrat fo thalman tói,  
 mairg na n-adrann for bith-ché!  
 rorand Muir Romur i ndó 55  
 ba ar omun tuaithe Dé.

Cland maic Cairne, cengta róe,  
 diamtís umle imalle,  
 ar imad óc ocus ech  
 nísfórfed nech acht mac Dé. 60

Luid sair dia n-éis, arm-char clí,  
 Dathí, ba talchar fria ré;  
 nírb fand a chomul for cóe  
 rorand in domun indé.

Ua as dech ós grian glan-gné 65  
 rochin ó Níall, násad nglé,  
 Colum Cille rogab h-Í  
 búaid fir bí fil i tig Dé. D.

50. *Cairpre*] Enna, &c. YHS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. 51. *Enna*] Cairpri, &c. YHS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>.  
*oen-baile*] hoenguine S. 52. *gabais*] L; gabsat, &c. *cæt.* 53. *dosrat*] L;  
*dorad*, &c. *cæt.* *fó*] fon RBMS; for Y(?)H. *thalman*] *ed*: thalm̄ L;  
 talm̄in, &c. BYS<sub>2</sub>; tal̄m̄ RMSS<sub>3</sub>. 54. *na n-*] L; na h- RBM; nach *cæt.*  
*for*] ar RBYMS. 55. *indó*] ineo RB; inteó S; aned M. 56. *ba ar*  
*omun*] ba heromun, &c. BS; indoacorum R. 57. *cland maic*] L; clanna, &c.  
*cæt.* *cengta róe*] cengtar róe L; centár rí S<sub>2</sub>; ceangta rí M. 58. *diamtís*]  
 diambidis B. *umle*] LY; umla *cæt.* 60. *forfed*] forfet B; foirred Y; foirgfeth

The two Conalls, Eogan in the north,  
 Fiachu, Cairpre, Mane the gentle, 50  
 Enna, there was one resort of the host,  
 it got Loegaire for king.

The King that brought them under the silence of earth,  
 woe to him that worships him not in his lifetime !  
 he divided the Red Sea in two parts, 55  
 it was through fear of the Lord's folk.

The children of the son of Cairenn, who stride through the battlefield,  
 to whom men were obedient altogether,  
 against the multitude of young men and horses  
 none could succour them save the Son of God. 60

After them came to the East a weapon-loving champion,  
 Dathi who was headstrong in his day ;  
 not weak was his muster at the meeting-place ;  
 he divided the world in two.

The descendant that is best above the bright-hued soil 65  
 of all that sprang from Niall (splendid glory),  
 is Colum Cille, who possessed Iona,  
 the noblest living man that is in the house of God.

M ; foirecedh, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>. 61. *sair dia n-eis*] dia eis L ; soir diandeis YS<sub>3</sub>.  
*armchar*] LR ; armcor HS<sub>3</sub> ; armclar B ; armo M ; romchar, &c. Y (*with* vel arm  
*superscr.*) SS<sub>2</sub>. 62. *Dathi*] nathi, &c. RMHS<sub>3</sub> ; dahí S. 63. *nirb fhand*  
*a chomul*] S<sub>3</sub> ; nfrbo comlund L ; nir gand a comol M ; nirb fand a comul, &c. *cæt.*  
*for*] ar B. 64] roranda doman dil de S<sub>2</sub>. 65-68] om. L. 65. *úa*] ua  
 sin R. *glan-gné*] gnæi (*with glā superscr. by later hand*) B ; gnoe R ; glán a  
 gne, &c. YHS<sub>3</sub> ; gu gnæ M. 66. *ngle*] e S<sub>2</sub>.

## MIDE.

AED ÚA CARTHAIG *cecinit.*

Mide magen na marc mer,  
 slige forsbíd Art Oen-fer,  
 lerg lán lainne Lugdech luid,  
 clár clainne Chuind is Chobthaig.

Cíd diatá Mide ar in maig, 5  
 fine síl Chuind chét-chathaig ?  
 cia gass glúair garg, glan in mod,  
 cia harg ó fúair ainmnigod ?

Mide mac bruthmar Bratha 10  
 meic dirmannaig Deatha,  
 co roatái tenid ndiamair  
 ós chlaind Nemid nert-giallaig.

Secht mbliadna lána ar lassad  
 don tenid, ba trén-fassad,  
 corscáil gairge in tened trell 15  
 tar cethri hairde hÉrend.

Conid ón tenid-sin tra,  
 (ní hanfót ní himmarba)  
 condlig a sír-chennach ind  
 cach prím-thellach in Éirind. 20

Condlig a chomarba cain  
 maige Midi medar-glain  
 miach móeth-bleithe la muic find  
 cachá hóen-cleithe in Éirind.

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LRBYMHSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. *Aed úa Carthaig*] L only. 1. marc] mbare LSS<sub>2</sub>.  
 2. forsbíd] forsmboi R. 3. lainne] claind B (*with* nó loinne *in marg.*); clainni R.  
 7. gas garg glúair] gas gluairgarg RBY; gaisced garg S<sub>2</sub>. glan] om. L. mod] magh H.  
 10. dirmannaig] dfirmannaig M; echta (*with r under the line and no dirmandaid above*) R. Deatha] de ata R; deaghatha M; dethatha S<sub>2</sub>. 11. co roatái] co ro h-atda L; co adai B; coradaid R; corfataid H; dofada M; ro fado YS; ro fodogh, &c. S<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. tenid] tene, &c. RS<sub>2</sub>M. 12. ós] for B; fri R; ri Y; re H.



## MIDE.

Mide, place of the eager steeds,  
 the road whereon Art the Solitary used to be  
 the lowland full of the splendour of Lugaid . . .  
 the level ground of the clan of Conn and Cobthach.

Whence is the name of Meath given to the plain? 5  
 to the heritage of the seed of Conn the Hundred Fighter?  
 what pure bold scion (bright the hero),  
 what warrior was it whence it got its naming?

Mide it was, the ardent son of Brath  
 the host-leading son of Death; 10  
 for he kindled a mystic fire  
 above the race of Nemed, seizer of hostages.

Seven years good ablaze  
 was the fire, it was a sure truce :  
 so that he shed the fierceness of the fire for a time 15  
 over the four quarters of Erin.

So that it is from this fire in truth  
 (it is not a rash saying, it is not a falsehood)  
 that their head-man has a right for ever  
 over every chief hearth of Erin. 20

So the right belongs to the gentle heir  
 of the plain of Mide mirthful and bright;  
 even a measure of fine meal with a white pig  
 for every roof-tree in Erin.

14. *ba*] ar H.      15. *teined*] tene, &c. RBYS<sub>2</sub>.      *trell*] tenn, &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>;  
 tall M.      16. *tar cethri h-airde*] clár cech ri airdde L; fo cheitri hairdi, &c. YM.  
 17. *tenid*] te B; teine, &c. RS<sub>2</sub>.      18. *anfót*] had R; afot B; annod Y;  
 hanodh S; hónadh S<sub>2</sub>; hofat M.      *immarba*] immargha, &c. YMS.      21. *co*  
*ndlig a*] condligeand Y; conadh dlig, &c. SS<sub>2</sub>.      23. *bleithe*]]; cleithe, &c.  
 LRBM; mbleithi Y.      *fná*] ind M.      24. *cacha h-*] cach LM; in  
 gach YS.      *óencléithe*] hoenceithi R; primteallach M.

Co roráidset, ní sním súail, 25  
 drúide hÉrend i n-óen-úair,  
 “ Is mí-dé tucad dún tair,  
 dorat mí-gné d’ ar menmain.”

Corthinól Mide cen meth 30  
 drúide hÉrend i n-óen-tech :  
 co tall a tengtha, túar ngarg,  
 a cendaib na ndrúad ndron-ard.

Co rosadnaice fo thalmain  
 Uisnig Midi mór-adbail, 35  
 co ndessid ar a tengthaib  
 in príim-súí in príim-senchaid.

Gáine ingen Gumóir glain,  
 muime Midi mid-charthaig,  
 ba ferr each mnái, ciarbo thúí,  
 ba sái ba fáith ba príim-drúí. 40

Co n-erbairt Gáine co n-úaill  
 re Mide cosin mór-búaid :  
 “ Is ós neoch rosníad ar tech  
 conid deseó bias Uisnech.” 45

Uisnech ocus Mide múad . 45  
 asngabar hÉriu arm-rúad,  
 feib adfét in súidi snas,  
 is desin a dind-senchas .

Dín, a Dé, Aéd úa Carthaig  
 ar iffern co méit anfaid : 50  
 Dia d’ iráil a grésa glé  
 for ríig mid-charthach Mide.

25. ní] L; ní *cæt.* 26. drúide] druid L. 27. dúinn] don R; do M.  
 28. dorat] dobert Y. d’ar] da M. 33. adnaicc] adnaidh B; adlaic Y;  
 adhnacht S<sub>2</sub>. fo] a YMSS<sub>2</sub>. 35. ar] for YSS<sub>2</sub>; foro M. 36. in]  
 im B. sui] L; drui, &c. *cæt.* in] LRB; sa *cæt.* 37. Gáine] L;  
 Gairé B; Gair Y; Gairech H; gaire, &c. *cæt.* midcharthaig] meadartuig;  
 Y; medarglain S; mormethraig S<sub>2</sub>. 39. ciarbo] nirbo M. 40. súi]  
 ... drúí] drai ... shái, &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>. 41. Gáine] L; Gairec H; gaire, &c. *cæt.*

And they said (no small grief it was),  
the druids of Erin all together, 25  
"It is an ill smoke was brought to us eastward :  
it has brought an ill mood to our mind."

Then Mide the untiring assembled  
the druids of Erin into one house, 30  
and cut their tongues (a harsh presage)  
out of the heads of the strong and noble druids.

And he buried them under the earth  
of Uisnech in mighty Mide,  
and sat him down over their tongues, 35  
he, the chief seer and chief poet.

Gaine daughter of pure Gumor,  
nurse of mead-loving Mide,  
surpassed all women though she was silent ;  
she was learned and a seer and a chief druid. 40

And Gaine said with lamentation,  
before Mide of the great victory,  
"It is *over somewhat* our house was built,  
and hence shall Uisnech be named."

Uisnech and mighty Mide 45  
from which Erin of the red weapons is held,  
according as the learned relate the cutting,  
hence is derived its story.

Guard, O God, Aed ua Carthaig  
from hell with all its storms, 50  
God enjoining his clear protection  
on the mead-loving king of Meath.

43. *ús neoch*] oisneach B ; onech R. *ro sniad*] LH ; busniad, &c. RB ; atiat M ; do gniad, &c. YS ; dognid S<sub>2</sub> ; dusgni S<sub>3</sub>. 44. *de-seo*] desin Y. *bias*] ata R.  
46. *asngabar*] asangabtar S<sub>2</sub> ; ongabthar M. *Eriu*] Ereo L. 47. *adfét in*]  
adfead Y ; adfedad S ; atfeghat S<sub>2</sub> ; rosfet in R. *Read perhaps adfiadat : but see*  
*Notes.* *snass*] a snas YS. 48. *é*] sé L. *a*] in RH. 50. *anfaid*] L ;  
unfaid Y ; n-anfaid, *cæt.* 51. *d' iráif*] d' furail YHS<sub>2</sub> ; durail S. *glé*]  
glaine L, glaine M. 52. *rig*] ri RB. *mid-charthach*] mi chartach L ; mid  
caraig B ; midhcuarraig M ; micharach SS<sub>2</sub>.

## DRUIM NDAIRBRECH.

FULARTACH *cecinit.*

Cid diatá in druim Druim nDairbrech ?  
 ba mór lá rathuill teglach ;  
 rem dán atchí co cuimnech  
 clár buidnech mar thír Temrach.

Druim nDairbrech is dún álaind, 5  
 múr gainmech fo thuind tóeb-seing ;  
 láid báird bas greimm ria glé-raind  
 fégaím din beinn aird óebind.

Druim ndrech-slemon na ndath-bord,  
 cuing leth-remor 'na leth-leirg, 10  
 port mar Raigne na rath-bard,  
 múr cath-garg Dairbre drech-deirg.

Dairbre drech-derg mac Lulaig,  
 ba prap sreth-chelg iar samain,  
 mac Ligmuine co leraib, 15  
 irlaime im debaid danair.

Fidgai Fochmaind is Gaileoin  
 niptar moch-maill dia lán-réir :  
 Firbolg, Fir Domnand dírim,  
 ba sír-mín gairbe in gád-méin. 20

Fine Chrecaige ind úr-óir  
 Gúmóir Brecaige bán-áir,  
 Mendraige Dairbre dúan-féil,  
 ba búan-léir gairbe grán-áig.

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LRBYMHSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. *Fulartach*] F. L; *om. cæt.* 2. *rathuill*] L; *datuill* M; *rotuill*, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>; *dotuill cæt.* 3. *rem*] rom L; rim H; reim S<sub>2</sub>M. *atchí*] *adchim* Y (the *m* added by later hand); *ateim* H; *docim* RS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. 5. *dún*] *druim n-* SS<sub>2</sub>. 6. *táebhsheing*] *tæbeing* Y; *taibfind* M; *taibind*, &c. SS<sub>2</sub>. 7. *ria*] *re* YHS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; *don* M. 8. *áin*] L; *don*, &c. YMSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; *do* RB; *da* H. *beind*] *muing* S<sub>2</sub>. 9. *shlemon*] *lemain* BS. 10. *remor*] *lemur* S. *leirg*] L; *bord* S; *lerg cæt.* 11. *port*] *om. R.* *mar Raigne*] *maraigne* Y; *maraidhni* M. *na*] *nar* L. *bará*] *bord-* Y; *bord* SS<sub>2</sub>M. 12. *múr cath*] *ed. ba rath* S<sub>2</sub>; *nar cath* H; *morhath* S<sub>3</sub>; *mar cath cæt.* *-deirg*] *ed. garg* S<sub>3</sub>; *dæg cæt.* See Notes.

## DRUIM NDAIRBRECH.

Whence is the hill of Druim Dairbrech named ?  
great was the day when the house earned the name ;  
by mine art thou mayst see in memory  
a plain populous as the domain of Tara.

Druim Dairbrech, it is a fair fort, 5  
a sandy rampart by the lank-sided billow ;  
the lay of a bard that will be mighty in tuneful verse  
I see, from the lovely lofty height.

The smooth-browed hill of the gay banks,  
the broad-flanked ridge with sloping sides, 10  
a spot like Raigne of the lucky bards,  
fiercely assailed rampart of Dairbre Ruddy-face.

Dairbre Ruddy-face, son of Lulach,  
who was sudden as a chain-trap (?) in winter-time,  
son of Ligmuine leader of hosts, 15  
readiest in savage conflict.

The Fidgeai, the Fochmaid, and the Gaileoin,  
were not their own masters, early or late ;  
the Firlbolg, the countless Fir Domnand,  
tame for ever was the violence of their imperious need. 20

The tribe of the Crecraige of the raw gold,  
the Gumóir, the Brecreaige of bloodless battle,  
the Mendraige of Dairbre generous to song,  
famed for ever was the fierceness of the horrid fight.

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14. *iar*] L ; ar *cæt.* *im debaid*] M ; imdebaib L ; andebaid, &c. *cæt.*  
19. *fir*] YS ; *fer* S<sub>2</sub> ; is *cæt.* *dirim*] dirmhein M. 20. *in*] im, &c. MHSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> ;  
am Y. 20. *gád-méin*] granair M ; gadméin, &c. *cæt.* 21. *Chrecraige*] L ;  
acraighi M ; ecreaige, &c. *cæt.* *ind*] ind h- L ; om. M ; in *cæt.* *úr-óir*] SS<sub>2</sub> ;  
uróir L ; umoir M ; uroir *cæt.* 22. *Gúmóir*] co múr S<sub>2</sub> ; gumnaige  
(omitting Brecreaige and with " vel gumoir brecre *superscr.* ) B ; gumóir, &c. *cæt.*  
*bán-dír*] bansair RB ; banáir S<sub>3</sub> ; banair *cæt.* 23. *Mendraige*] mentraidhi S<sub>2</sub> ;  
menraide, &c. YHS. 24. *léir*] ler HS ; leirg S<sub>2</sub>. *gairbe*] airbre S<sub>2</sub> ;  
gairm R. *grándig*] granáig L ; in granaigh, &c. HS ; angranaid Y ; ingranáir  
R ; imgranair B ; imgranaib S<sub>2</sub> ; um granaidh M ; im granáigh S<sub>3</sub>.

Tuc Tuathal na ferg fuilid do Dairbre derg 'mon grellaig maidm immach dar each mongaig, cath Commair gairb ós glennaib.	25
Dairbre drech-derg 'con drumain ní rondegtherb ria dremmaib : Tuathal cosin grúaid glonnaig dia chongaib chrúaid rochengail.	30
Tuathal techtmar in mflid, mór a recht-blad dar rígaib : docer Dairbre co ndúanaib dia thúagaib, aible in dídail.	35
In cnocc-sa catha in chomlaid, a éicsiu datha derbaim : maith dia fír in lá labraim d' faglaím cid diatá in deg-druim.	40

---

25. *fuilid*] S<sub>2</sub>; fuillid LH; fuilech R; fuil- B; fuilligh MS<sub>3</sub>; fuilich Y; fuiligh S. 26. 'mon] moan n- LBH; mun n- YSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>; fan n- M. 27. *maidm*] S<sub>3</sub>; tairm H. *tar*] ar M. *mongaig*] mongaid, &c. RS<sub>2</sub>; monaigh S. 28. *gairb*] garb LHM. *glennaið*] greallaigh M. 29. 'con] in RB. 30. *ni rondegtherb*] LBS<sub>3</sub>; niro degtearb H; nirbo degsearb, &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>; ni ro methcearb R; ni ra aithcearb M. *ria*] dia YHSS<sub>2</sub>. *dremmaib*] demmaib

Tuathal of the bloody warriors inflicted  
 on red Dairbre, about the swamp  
 headlong defeat across every moorland  
 [in] the battle of Commar, rough beyond other glens. 25

Dairbre Ruddy-face, on that hill  
 in evil hour did he separate from his soldiery ; 30  
 Tuathal of the martial cheek  
 bound him with his iron grip.

Tuathal the Wealthy, the warrior,  
 great his rightful fame among princes :  
 Dairbre of the songs fell 35  
 by his axes—fearful was the cleaving !

This hill of the array of battle  
 O swift poets, I declare,  
 good for [hearing] the truth about it is the day I speak of,  
 for learning whence is named the noble hill. 40

LB; dreamnaib Y; ndremaib RS; ndreannaib M. 31. *gruaid gl.*] ngruaid ngl.,  
 &c. RYHMS<sub>3</sub>; gruaid ngl., &c. BS; ngruaid nglongaidh S<sub>2</sub>. 32. *ro*] re R.  
 34. *dar*] da BS; do R; dia S<sub>2</sub>; os H. 36. *dia*] de L; di R; la M.  
*didail*] LM; digaib B; digail, &c. *cæt.* 39. *fhír*] fíru S<sub>2</sub>M. 40. *d'fhaglaím*]  
 L; do faglaím B; faglaím, &c. RS<sub>3</sub>; dagloím H; dadlaím Y; dadhlaím S;  
 derbaim S<sub>2</sub>M. *deg-druim*] deth-druim S<sub>2</sub>; deadrúim M.

## LAGIN I.

- Rohort in rigrad 'moa rí,  
 (ba gním olc, ba domna hír);  
 loise Loingsech móen, méit gaile  
 Cobthach cóel mac Ugaine.
- Ba Túaim Tenbath cosin olc 5  
 in rí-g-dind rán, in rochnoc,  
 cornoirg Labraid, lán ngaile,  
 diarchuir ár a macraide.
- O rohoirged, 's é a fír,  
 Cobthach cóel, a thrichait rí,  
 corgénair mac mór Maire 10  
 cóic cét bliadna bith-glaine.
- Ba tossach glíad is gaile  
 pían Chobthaig for Lóegaire ;  
 de dorochair Cobthach cairn 15  
 la húa Lóegaire lond-gairb.
- Luidset dond orgain for sét  
 Labraid, Dubgaill trichat cét,  
 'na congaib ágmair assaid,  
 cona lágnib lán-glassaib. 20
- O na lágnib-sin ille  
 rogairit Lagin Láigne :  
 la Loingsech Móen, co méit olc,  
 Cobthach cóel ba díb rohort.
- Meraid 'ca chlaind co ti bráth, 25  
 corob cocad rí rognáth :  
 Oilill Lóegaire do lot  
 la Cobthach Cóel cétna hort.

---

LRBYMHSS<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>V. 1. *in*] om. RH. *moa*] L; mon S; mo *cæt.* rí]  
 rí rúad, &c. RBH. 2.] L; in dind rí ba tenba (teannbad S; tennbladh S<sub>2</sub>)  
 truag, &c. *cæt.* 3. *Loingsech*] Labraid L. *maen*] om. L; nœn B. *gaile*  
 L; ngaile, &c. *cæt.* 4. *Ugaine*] Augaine L. 5. *Tenbath*] L; teanma YS;  
 tenba, &c. *cæt.* 6. *in rochnoc*] L; in rí chnoc, &c. RBMS; in rí chnoc H;  
 in rí port (*vel cñc superser.*) Y; isinoc S<sub>2</sub>. 7. *cornoirg*] &c. BS;  
 coronoirg L; coroir, &c. RYMHSS<sub>2</sub>. *lán*] med S; lath S<sub>2</sub>. 8. *a macraide*]  
 amcraide L; na læraighi M; na rigraide, &c. *cæt.* 9. *ro*] ra LM.



## LAGIN I.

The princes were slain round their king  
(it was an ill deed, it was matter for wrath) :  
the Dumb Exile of martial might burnt  
Cobthach Cael, son of Ugaine.

Till that crime, Tuaim Tenbath was the name 5  
of the noble kingly hold, the noted hill,  
till Labraid full of valour sacked it,  
when he made a slaughter of its young men.

From the day he was slain (this is sooth)  
even Cobthach Cael, with his thirty kings, 10  
till the birth of the Son of Mary  
is five hundred years ever pure.

The beginning of struggle and strife was  
the vengeance of Cobthach on Loegaire :  
thereby fell Cobthach of the cairn 15  
by the grandson of Loegaire fierce and fell.

There came on the march to that slaying  
Labraid and thirty hundred of the Dub-Gaill  
in their battle-harness, warlike and staunch,  
with their deep-blue lances. 20

From those lances thenceforth  
were the men of Leinster called the Spearmen ;  
at the hand of the Dumb Exile, with heavy disaster,  
by these lances Cobthach Cael was slain.

This doom shall abide with his family till the Last Day 25  
that there be war between kindred kings :  
the destruction of Oilill and Loegaire  
at the hand of Cobthach Cael was the first slaying.

10. *Cobthach cael*] LS<sub>2</sub>; cæl na mbreg, &c. *cæt.* a] na R. 11. *cor'*] coro L; co S<sub>2</sub>; con *cæt.* 12. *cóie*] tri M. *bith glaine*] L; buad gaire, &c. RBMH; barrbuidi Y (*with bua gaire superser.*) SS<sub>2</sub>. 14. *pian*] L; riad, &c. BYMS; riagh H; ria RS<sub>2</sub>. *for*] fri S<sub>2</sub>. 15. *dorochair*] dorocer RBM. 19. *assaid*] RB; fhassaid, &c. LMH; asaidh SS<sub>2</sub>; osaid Y. 21. *na*] la B. 22. *rogairit*] rogairid B; nogairid YS; dogairid M; raidhter S<sub>2</sub>. *laigne*] fri laigne S<sub>2</sub>. 23. *clc*] nolc RBSS<sub>2</sub>. 24. *ba díb*] cetnæ H. 25-28] *om.* L. 25. *ca*] ga M; co RBH; da, &c. YSS<sub>2</sub>. *bráth*] brach R; in brath, &c. MHS<sub>2</sub>. 32. *cétna*] tren S<sub>2</sub>. *hort*] ro ort S<sub>2</sub>; thort S.

## LAGIN II.

Labraid Loingsech, lór a lín,  
lasrort Cobthach i nDindrig,  
co slúag lágnech dar lind lir,  
díb roainmnigthea Lagin.

Tuaim Tenba a ainm riasin 5  
cnuicc in' rogniad ind orgain :  
is Dindrig ósin ille,  
ó marbad na rígraide.

Da cét ar fichit chét nGall 10  
co lágrib lethna leo anall :  
de na lágrib tuctha andsin,  
de atát Lagin for Lagnib.

---

L [159] L [377] S<sub>2</sub>M. 2. *lasrort*] ro ort L 377 S<sub>2</sub>M. 4. *dib roainmnigthea*]  
de rolainmnichea M. 5. *riasin*] roimisin M. 6. *cnuicc*] in cnuic S<sub>2</sub> ;  
enoc L 377. 7. *is*] in S<sub>2</sub>. 8. *na*] m̄c S<sub>2</sub>. *rígraide*] macraide

LAGIN II.

Labraid the Exile, (full his number,  
by whom Cobthach was slain at Dindrig,  
came with a lance-armed host over the sea-water ;  
from them Lagin was named.

Tuaim Tenba was the name aforetime 5  
of the hill where the slaughter was done ;  
Dindrig is its name from that time forth,  
since the slaying of the chieftains.

Two and twenty hundreds of the Gall 10  
came oversea having with them broad lances ;  
from the lances that were carried there—  
thence the men of Lagin get their name.

---

L 377.      9. *nGall*] call M.      10. *lethna*] lethnaibh L 377.      11. *dena*]  
con M.      12] dibh ro ainmnighthe L. L 377.      *de atát*] raidhter S<sub>2</sub> ;  
ataid M.

## SLIAB BLADMA.

FULARTACH *cecinit.*

Blod mac Con maic Caiss clothaig  
maic Uachalla ilchrothaig  
romarb Bregmáel, gobaind glain  
Cuirchi maic Snithe snámaig.

Cuirche cendmar, ba rí rot 5  
for Medraige is for Herot ;  
is lais ná fúair fóesam fír  
Blod mac Con meic Caiss clothmín.

Cechaing 'n a luing, láthar nglé,  
ó Bun Gaillme glan-úaire, 10  
ó Áth Clíath in Herut uill  
cosin n-Áth Clíath i Cualaind.

Dolluid iarum iar lín chor  
co Ross Náir maic Eidlicon,  
co roselb i sain-rainn son 15  
in slíab dianid bunad Blod.

Atbath fer find, figed gail,  
i Sléib Bladma, blad adbail,  
Blad mac Bregoin, buidnib tor,  
do thám i Sléib bleadaig Blod. 20

*Aliter* Nó 's ó mac Bregoin borrfaid  
Sliab Bladma co mban-tolcaib ;  
a tarba ní cian ó crad  
in slíab mar tarla ó trén-Blad.

---

LRY (on a slip in later hand) EHS<sub>3</sub>V. S<sub>2</sub> has the last stanza only.  
Fulartach] L only. 1. Blod] L; Bladh R; Bloadh Y; Blad H; Bladma E.  
2. uachalla] tuachail aird Y. ilchrothaig] ilchlothaig LE. 4. Snithi] R;  
Snitheche H; sær LE. snámaig] samaig R; snamanaig E. 5. rot] rod RY;  
rót S<sub>3</sub>. 6. Herot] L; eorot R; erfhod Y; erot H; heret E; erót S<sub>3</sub>.  
7. fúair] om. R; frith S<sub>3</sub>. 8. Blod] Bload Y; Blad cæt. clothmín] LE;  
clothmir H; cloth- RY; clothghil S<sub>3</sub>. 11. ó Áth Clíath] cath cliach R.

## SLIAB BLADMA

Blod, son of Cu, son of Cass the renowned,  
son of Uachall the many-shaped,  
killed Bregmael the famous smith  
of Cuirche, son of Snithe the swimmer.

Curche Cendmar was a daring king 5  
over Medraige and over Herot ;  
through him Blod, son of Cass Clothmin,  
found never sure protection.

He fared in his ship—clear purpose!—  
from the Bottom of pure-cold Galway, 10  
from Ath Cliath in wide Herot  
to Ath Cliath in Cualu.

Thence he came after many a turn  
to the Point of Nar, son of Edliuc,  
and possessed, as his special portion, 15  
the mountain whose name derives from Blod.

—————  
A valiant man who used to wage battle died  
at Sliab Bladma—vast renown!  
even Blad, son of Bregon, with troops of warriors,  
died of disease in the monster-haunted Sliab Blod. 20

—————  
Or, it is from the son of Bregon the wrathful  
that it is named Sliab Bladma, with onsets of women ;  
their profit (?) not far removed from destruction (?)  
was the mountain where it happened through strong Blad.

---

*Herut*] L; erait R; éroit H; heret E; eruot S<sub>3</sub>; erhod Y. 13. *iar*] co H.  
15. *roselb*] russelb H; rosealbuith S<sub>3</sub>. *i sain-rainn*] in sáin rainn R; asan  
roinn Y; a sabrainn H; seáibhainn S<sub>3</sub>; hí senraind E. 16. *dianid*] diana H.  
*Blod*] Blad, &c. EH. 17-20] in LE only. 18. *blad*] blád L.  
19. *Bregoin*] Breguin L. *bledaig Blod*] bladaig blad E. 21-28] in RYHS<sub>3</sub>  
*only.* 21. *Bregoin*] Breogain, &c. RH. *tolcaib*] tolchaib H. 23. *tarba*]  
*tharba* S<sub>3</sub>.

Nó bleða mara nar mall,  
 bíasta, ruisenda a n-anmand,  
 tánic fo thalmáin na treb,  
 conid uatha atá Sliab Bled.

25

Blod mac Con meic Caiss clothmín  
 romarb buachail Bregmáil báin,  
 gobann Cuirchi meic Sníthe,  
 rogab ac Ross Tíre Náir.

30

25. *Nó*] nois Y.      26. *ruisenda*] R; ruisegda H; ruisedha S<sub>3</sub>; ruisdeda Y.  
 27. *treb*] tor Y.      28. *conid*] gurab Y.      *uatha*] uathad R.      *Bled*] R; blad,  
 &c. YHS<sub>3</sub>.      29-32] in LL 159b BdHS<sub>2</sub>; not in RYES<sub>3</sub>.      29. *Blod*] Bd;  
 Blad LH; Bladma S<sub>2</sub>.      *Caiss*] om. S<sub>2</sub>.      *clothmín*] clotgil H;

Or the monsters of the sea that was not calm,  
 beasts—*ruisenda* was their name—  
 came throughout the land of the tribes,  
 so that from them is named Sliab Bled. 25.

Blod, son of Cu, son of Cass Clothmin,  
 slew the herd of Bregmael Ban,  
 the smith of Curchu, son of Snithe; 30  
 he settled at Ross Tire Nair.

---

cloich- S<sub>2</sub>.      30] romarb bregmáel iṅgobaind mbáin L.      *báin*] mhair H.  
 31] iar marbad goband cuirchi meic snithi L; gabann cuirchi moir meic snithe,  
 &c. HBd; gabaind sein curc meic sneithi S<sub>2</sub>.      32. *ae*] hi Bd.  
*Náir*] inair S<sub>2</sub>; innair Bd.

## FID NGABLI.

FIND *cecinit.*

Inmain dam in Gabol glan  
tuc forom for fíd flesc-glan :  
ní'r dáig luaige co logud,  
rogáid uaid a ainmnigud.

Tarclam Ainge grinne nglan  
cen taidbe fri tinsanad :  
cach crand cen timme ria thúr  
isin grinne buc barr-úr.

5

Drochta dogníd diaingin  
ós gním ochta aird-inbir :  
ní síled cen lán mara :  
nodiled dál n-óentama.

10

Is é dafall, forum sceóil,  
Gaible glass mac Ethedeóin ;  
dafarlaic cen lúag n-astair  
a Beluch fúar Fhualascaig.

15

Rogab foss ic finib Flaind :  
dligid a doss a derb-chaill  
fer rotháid is rothall tair :  
ic mnáib cach amm rop inmain.

20

---

LRBYMEHSS<sub>3</sub>. *Find*] RB only. 1. *dam*] lind R ; lám E. *Gabul*] gabrán, &c. ES. 2. *tuc forom*] *tuc form* L ; rotathaigh R ; dathaiged M ; dotathaig, &c. *cæt.* *in fíd*] *forsind* L (*but for fíd at 159 b 7*). *flesc-glan*] *flescach* LRBHS<sub>3</sub>. 3. *nir*] ni ar R. *daig*] daig, &c. LBM ; daighi R ; dag HS<sub>3</sub> ; gæ (*with d superscr.*) Y ; ghái, &c. SE. *luaige*] &c. LM ; om. R ; luaide, &c. *cæt.* *co*] cen, &c. RYS ; ge E. *logud*] luided E ; ludadh S. 4. *rogáid*] ragaid LB ; roguid Y ; daraidh M ; rogab H ; dogab R ; corgabh S<sub>3</sub>. *úaid a*] uaid LS ; uaide RYHS<sub>3</sub> ; uaiti M. 5. *tarclam*] *tarchland* M. *Ainge*] aine RE ; in gæ M. *grinne*] &c. LM ; in grinne, &c. *cæt.* *nglan*] LHS<sub>3</sub> ; glan *cæt.* 6. *taidbe*] taidi L ; time (*in litura*) S ; timme E ; taibi M. *fri*] fria H ; tré SE ; tria M.



## FID NGABLI.

Dear to me is bright Gabul  
 who set moving the bright-stemmed wood,  
 not for the sake of a reward that should decay,  
 he prayed that from him it should be named.

Ainge gathered a bright faggot  
 which dripped unless it was ebb-tide :  
 every kind of tree without exception is to be sought  
 in the soft fresh-leaved faggot.

A tub was made for his daughter  
 above the breast-work of the high river mouth ; 10  
 it would not leak unless the tide were full :  
 she loved (?) the lot of virginity.

He it was who stole it (burden of a tale)  
 even Gaible the pale, son of Ethedeon ;  
 he cast it without payment for labour 15  
 from the cold Pass of the Thicket.

It found rest in the confines of Fland ;  
 he claims of right his copse and his own wood,  
 the man who thieved and stole in the east ;  
 to women he was at all times dear. 20

---

7. *cach*] LS; cen, &c. *cæt*. *timme*] tindi M. *ria*] ra L; tria B; re R;  
*om. E.* *thúr*] tnuð B. 9. *drochta*] droctga BME; drocht Y. *dogniá*]  
donid L; dogni, &c. MES; doraigne Y. *dia*] da L. 10. *os*] is R.  
*ochta*] ochtga E. 12. *no diled*] &c. RHS<sub>3</sub>; diled L; dilad Y; dodilad, &c.  
MES; no dligeð B. *dal*] dail B; daul H. *noentama*] do  
oentama L; doentuma, &c. RBHS<sub>3</sub>. 13. *dafall*] L; dofall BMHS<sub>3</sub>;  
dofaill R; rofeall, &c. YES. 14. *Ethedeoin*] etamoin M. 15. *dafarlaic*]  
M; dosfarlaic R; dofarlaic *cæt*. *luag*] luad, &c. RSHME. 16. *a Beluch*]  
os bealach M; óbel E; o bealach S<sub>3</sub>. 19. *ro tháid*] L; rostaíd E; rossaidh Y;  
roáit M; rosaid, &c. *cæt*. *ro thall*] rota all B; rostall E. 20. *rop*] bus Y.

MAG LIFE.

Life luchair, leór do blaid,  
ingen Channain chét-churchaig  
fuair gairm ngaire il-lóg astair  
ainm in ma ge, is mór-ascaid.

Tuc ascaid togaide tig  
dálem Conaire chélig  
d'ingin Channain cét codal  
Deltbanna dét drech-solam.

5

Lámnad roloit Lifi laind  
i Purt Ágmar i n-Áraind :  
ruc madaid mac Druchta de,  
di chumaid lór léch-Life.

10

---

LRBYMEHSS<sub>3</sub>. 2. *Channain*] Candan B; Camain H. *chet-churchaig*]  
LE; coir cruthaig RM; coir cruchaig BY; coir eurchaig, &c. SS<sub>3</sub>H. 3. *ngaire*]  
gaire L. *illóg*] L; iarnoc R; iarn M; iarnog, &c. *cæt*. 5. *tig*] tich L.  
6. *chélig*] chelig L; celic B; ceillig, &c. *cæt*. 7. *cét*] chet L. *codal*] comul L;

## MAG LIFE.

Life the bright (fame in plenty!),  
 daughter of Cannan of the hundred coracles,  
 got as reward for her labour a title of pious observance,  
 even the name of the plain ; it is a mighty boon.

A choice, pleasant boon gave 5  
 the spencer of friendly Conaire  
 to the daughter of Cannan,—an hundred hides,  
 Deltbanna of the gleaming teeth.

Child-birth was the death of eager Life 10  
 at Port Agmar in Aran ;  
 thereby the son of Drucht got his death,  
 from his great grief for heroic Life.

---

codhail, &c. ES<sub>3</sub>.      8. *solam*] *solus fes. of I, wrongly.*      9. *ro*] *ra L.*  
 10. *agmar*] *aloind R; admor Y. Araind*] *feraind, &c. ES<sub>3</sub>.*      11. *ruc*] *ro*  
 HS<sub>3</sub>; *rod* (?) *Y; ru S; guc M. mudaid*] *mugaid, &c. RYEH; mudaig M;*  
*mugaig, &c. BS. di chumaid*] *damaigh M. 12. lor*] *loir RBSS<sub>3</sub>M.*

## BERBA.

In Berba búan a bailbe,  
saiges dar slúag sen-Ailbe ;  
is fis fedma fáth dia fail  
Berba, bláth cech blad-focail.

Ni fuailfed focheird inti 5  
luaithred Mechi mór-millti :  
rosbalb rosberb cen athbach  
salchur serb na sen-nathrach.

Nathir fo thrí focheird cor 10  
tathig in mbeirg dia bronnud :  
enáifed dia álaig óg n-ell  
slóg sádail na sen-Érend.

Aire-sin romarb Diancecht :  
ba fotha garb din glan-echt,  
dia chosc co búan din bronnud 15  
ós each cúan, din chomlongud.

Eól dam a lecht leth rolá  
fert cen tech is cen tuga :  
a lúaithe ole cen áib n-enga  
fofúair socht i sár-Berba. 20

LRBYMEHSS<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub>. 1. *a*] L; co m- *cæt*. 2. *dar*] L; co, &c. *cæt*.  
3. *fáth*] L; in fath, &c. *cæt*. 4. *bláth*] bláith, &c. *codd*. *cech blad focail*]  
*These words are displaced and partially obliterated in L.* 5.] Nosfáidhset cofed  
inte S; nosfáidset coféig inti E 6. *Mechi*] LB; Meich *cæt*. *mór-millti*]  
mormilti L; na mormilti M; na mormillti, &c. RB; in mormillti, &c. *cæt*.  
7. *rosbalb rosberb*] rosearb robalb M; 7 rosbalb E. *cen athbach*] cen adbath S;  
each atbath E. 10. *in mbeirg*] LR; in mberg, &c. BHS<sub>3</sub>; in berg Y; in  
mbert E; umbeirt M; imbert S. *dia*] L; a RBM; do *cæt*. 11. *enáifed*]

## BERBA.

The Barrow, enduring its silence,  
that flows through the folk of old Ailbe ;  
a labour it is to learn the cause whence is called  
smooth Barrow, flower of all famous names.

No motion in it made 5  
the ashes of Mechi the strongly smitten :  
the stream made sodden and silent past recovery  
the fell filth of the old serpent.

Three turns the serpent made ;  
it sought out the soldier to consume him ; 10  
it would have wasted by its doings all the kine  
of the indolent hosts of ancient Erin.

Therefore Diancecht slew it :  
there was rude reason for clean destroying it,  
for preventing it for ever from wasting 15  
worse than any wolf-pack, from consuming utterly.

Known to me is its grave where he cast it,  
a tomb without walls or roof-tree ;  
its ashes, evil without loveliness of innocence ,  
found silent burial in noble Barrow. 20

cnaidhfidh M ; cláfed E ; cláifid S.      *álaig*] LS ; álaid RBYE ; alaibh HS<sub>3</sub> ;  
falaig M.      *og n-ell*] ganeill M.      13. *airesin*] iarsin M ; aráisin ES.  
*romarb*] rosmarb and M.      *Diancecht*] L ; mac Cecht *cæt.*      14. *fótha*] fatha  
LYHE ; fota RB.      *don*] din L.      15. *dia*] do RBME.      *din*] dia LH ;  
*don cæt.*      16. *din*] L ; dia *cæt.*      17. *ro*] ri RB ; re M.      18.] fert cen  
tech fert cen teith is cen tuca R.      *tech*] teš B.      *tuga*] tiugba B.      19. *cen*]  
con RBS<sub>3</sub>.      *nenga*] enga L.      20. *fofuair*] forfuair YM ; foruair S ;  
fotruair HS<sub>3</sub> ; for E.      *socht*] focht L.      *i*] ar RB ; na S<sub>3</sub>.

## MOIN GAI GLAIS.

Culdub mac Déin dia Samna  
luid hi céin, in cath-amra,  
do chuingid chomraic óen-fir  
co Fidirad fíal forfáilid.

Desin dorochair Fidirad 5  
d'imairiuc na trén-bidbad :  
aided Fidirad féig iar feirg  
do láim maic Déin daiger-deirg.

Gae Glass úa Loga na lecht 10  
ba mass, fri fola frithbert :  
bái leis sleg taith fri tola  
dorigne Aith án-goba.

Is é ba nia Fiachach féil  
úa Loga liamna lonn-géir : 15  
ba greit gáid cen díl im dul :  
dia láim dorochair Culdub.

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RBYMEHSS<sub>3</sub>. 2. *hi*] RB; a *cæt.* *amra*] chalma MS<sub>3</sub>. 3. *chuingid*] *chuingid*, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>. 5. *dorochair*] *adrochair* BMS; *atorchair* Y. 6. *d'imairiuc*] *do imaire* R; *dimfarrach*, &c. MHS<sub>3</sub>; *diamaireg* S. 10. *fri*] *fria* MH.

## MOIN GAI GLAIS.

Culdub, son of Dian, at Samain tide,  
 went afar, the famous fighter,  
 to demand duel man to man  
 with joyous generous Fidirad.

Thereby fell Fidirad 5  
 by encounter with doughty foes :  
 the death of keen Fidirad in his fury,  
 [came] by the hand of the red-knived son of Dian.

Gai Glas, grandson of Lug of the graves,  
 was comely, a bulwark against enmity : 10  
 he bore a spear . . . against shields,  
 which Aith, the noble smith, forged.

'Tis he was champion of generous Fiachu,  
 the grandson of Lug Liamna, bold and keen :  
 he was the warrior who prayed to go without hire; 15  
 by his hand fell Culdub.

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 11. <i>fri</i> ] fria M.                           | <i>taith</i> ] thaith Y; staith S.            | 12. <i>in-goba</i> ] engoba Y;                         |
| aengoba SE; angoba <i>cæt</i> .                    | 13. <i>Fiachach</i> ] fiachna R; fiachra BHM; |  |
| fiacrach S <sub>3</sub> ; fricach E.               | <i>féil</i> ] fen S; féin E.                  | 14. <i>longéir</i> ] langéir E.                        |
| 15. <i>gaid</i> ] aidh Y.                          | <i>im</i> ] in BR.                            | <i>dil</i> ] E; diol S <sub>3</sub> ; dil <i>cæt</i> . |
| 16. <i>dorochair</i> ] adrochair HS <sub>3</sub> . |   |  |

## FAFFAND.

FULARTACH (?) *cecinit*.

Broccaid brogmar co ngním gíall  
do chiniud gorm-glan Galán,  
dó ba mac Faifne in file,  
ní gó taithme tiug-mire.

Ba hí máthair in maic maiss 5  
Libir ind láthair lond-braiss;  
ingen dóib in dían dírmach  
ind Aige fíal il-gnímach.

Oll-mass in cethrur cáem cass;  
ba clethchur sáer co sognass; 10  
athair is máthair co n-áib,  
ingen is bráthair bláth-cháin.

Tucsat na siabra side—  
nír gním tiamda téithmire—  
delbsat i ndeilb láig allaid 15  
Aigi sáir co serc-ballaib.

Roštr hÉrinn or i n-or  
re cach n-albín rúad rogor,  
corchúardaig Banba mbrethaig  
co calma fo chaém-chethair. 20

Tarnic a gním is a gal,  
fríth sund co sír a sernad;  
tucsat i mbrianna i mbine  
fianna Meilgi Imlige.

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LRBYMESS<sub>3</sub>H. *Fulartach*] F. L; *om. cæt.* 1. *con*] LY; *cen, &c. cæt. giall*] gial L; *ngiall* RBE. 2. *chiniud*] chungid L. 4. *ní gó*] ní co R; ní gon Y; nig M; nia na E; nia S. *taithme*] taichle L; taichme, &c. BYES. *tiugmire*] acht (*inserted*) tigmire B; acht tigmire HS<sub>3</sub>. 6. *lond-braiss*] L; londmais RBYSS<sub>3</sub>H; læchmais SE; landglais M. 8. *ind Aige fhial*] ind Aigi fhial L; in fhial Ainge S; in fhial Aige, &c. *cæt. il-*] oll- YSE. 11. *athair*] ingen L. 12.] athair is mac co mor . . . L; *the last syllable erased, and aeb* (?)



## FAFFAND.

Broccaid the powerful with winning of hostages,  
of the bright and famous race of the Galian,  
he had a son, Faifne the poet ;  
the record of his final journey is no falsehood.

It was she was the mother of the comely son,— 5  
even Libir quick and eager of mood :  
their daughter was the swift lady of the hosts  
Aige, the noble and skilful.

Exceeding fair were the four, curled and gentle ;  
they were a noble kin, of virtuous behaviour, 10  
the father and the lovely mother,  
the daughter and the brother soft and fair.

The evil spirits made an onset  
(it was no feeble deed of wanton folly) :—  
they changed into the form of a wild doe 15  
the noble Aige of the love-spots.

She traversed Erin from shore to shore  
fleeing before all the fierce and fiery packs ;  
so that she coursed round Banba, land of judges,  
bravely, four fair times. 20

Her doings and her valiance had an end,  
here came to pass her final dissolution ;  
they tore her in pieces in their wickedness,  
did the warriors of Meilge of Imlech.

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*added in margin.*    *ingen is]* siur 7 M.    *chain]* chaem, &c. MHS<sub>3</sub>    14. *side]*  
side E ; a side RB.    *teithmire]* &c. LES ; teidmiri Y ; teidmini M ; acht teidmire,  
&c. RHS<sub>3</sub> ; acht tecmire B.    16. *serc-]* sith- YSE.    17. *i n-or]* indor E ;  
côhor M.    18. *re]* RS ; ria LHS<sub>3</sub> ; ro BYME.    *albin]* albain B ; aillin,  
&c. YE ; allaim M.    21. *gním]* ngním E.    *gal]* ngal E.    22. *fríth]* fuil M.  
*sund]* om. L.    *sir]* sær, &c. RBS<sub>3</sub>.    *sernad]* særnad B ; sráenadh SE ;  
særbladh M.    23. *i (1)]* in LRB ; a cæt.    24. *Imlige]* imilige LBR ; milidi, &c.  
YESS<sub>3</sub>H ; milmile M.

De-sin atá Aige úar 25  
 for sruth in maige, mét snúad ;  
 ó roscráided cen chuisle,  
 rosdáiled ar dían-uisce.

Sruith-lind sin cen bás co bráth,  
 snás dar Lifi co lond-gnáth ; 30  
 mod táire, ní tairm cen taig,  
 Aige a hainm in each inbaid.

Moslúí síar inna síde  
 in drúí dían in deg-file,  
 d' ainmed ríg Beirre co mblaid, 35  
 Meilg maic Cobthaig cundail.

Fúacrais ar in ríg co recht  
 anim is on i n-óen-fecht,  
 's aithis fri sír-gail sethad  
 i ndígail a deg-sethar. 40

Dorochair in file féig  
 dind fochaind amnais acbéil ;  
 romairned co sír segma  
 ar ainmed ríg ro-Themra.

Rocúrad rosedlad se, 45  
 rodedlad fri doenmige ;  
 for Faffaind na fian fergach  
 fúair grafaind dían díbergach.

25-28. This stanza is quoted in the prose Ds. LL 160. 25. *Aige*] ath Aighi S.  
 26. *for*] L [191]; ar *cæt.* *snúad*] sluagh M. 27. *cen*] *Read perhaps* co : *see*  
*Notes.* *chuisle*] chuis gle L [191] S<sub>3</sub>; cuisle R. 28. *rosdáiled*] rodailead  
 M; rosdailid E. *ar*] in, &c. YME. 29. *cen bás*] gabhus S.  
 30. *snás*] snass L; súas SE. 31. *mod táire*] mothaire L; mo tairi Y;  
 mod taire, &c. RBSEH; mogh tairi M; madh taire S<sub>3</sub>. *ní*] *om.* L; in R.  
*cen taig*] ocathich L. 32. *inbaid*] inmaid Y; inmaig E. 33. *moslúí*]  
 musluid, &c. YSE; dolai M. *inna*] L; marcach RBYEH; mar gach,

Hence is the name of chill Aige 25  
 given to the river of the many-coloured plain  
 since she was tortured without secrecy  
 and flung upon the flowing water.

That ancient stream is deathless till Doomsday,  
 which pours across Life in furious wise: 30  
 (a deed of shame, not wrongly noised abroad (?))—  
 Aige is its name for all time.

Westward came rushing,  
 the swift druid, the skilled poet,  
 to blemish the famous king of Berre, 35  
 Meilge, son of kindly Cobthach.

He denounced rightfully upon the king  
 reproach and shame together,  
 and disgrace with lasting stain . . .  
 in revenge for his sweet sister. 40

The keen poet fell  
 by the harsh and horrid cause;  
 he was betrayed for ever . . .  
 for blemishing the king of high Tara.

He was chastised, he was maimed, 45  
 he was parted from his misery;  
 in Faffand of the wrathful warriors  
 he met the pursuit of swift spoilers.

&c. MSS<sub>3</sub> 35. *ainmed*] *aifed* R. *Beirri*] *birra* E. 37. *in*] *a* M.  
 38. *anim*] *ainm* B. 39. 's *aithis*] *athais*, &c. SEY; *sadhair* S<sub>3</sub>. *sethad*  
*sead* M; *srethad* E. 40. *deg*] *derb* R. *shethar*] *athair* B. 41-48] These  
 stanzas are quoted in the prose Ds. LL 160. 41. *dorochair*] *adrochoir* M.  
 45. *rocúrad*] *rocuired* E. 46. *dedlad*] *delgad* R. *fri*] *ra* L [191];  
*ri* L [160]; *ger* M; *co*, &c. *cæt*. 46. *doemige*] *dommige*, &c. B; *dombine* M.  
 47. *for Faffaind*] LR; *afhorafaind* M; *i faffaind*, &c. *cæt*. *fian*] *fiann* LYE.  
*dian*] *na n-* L.

Rosgáid imascaid andsin,  
 áitt immasclaig in mílid; 50  
 combeth fria gairm—gním nguba—  
 a ainm sír in sen-duma.

Is eol dam fri tibri tra  
 aided Libri is Broccada; 55  
 ní handarc in fáth dia fail  
 ráth in' roadnacht Broccaid.

49. *rosgid*] roscaid RMS<sub>3</sub>; rosecaid H. 50. *immasclaig*] immasclaid, &c.  
 YES<sub>3</sub>; immasclaith H. *in*] im L. 51. *fria*] re RYMES. 52. *sen-*]  
 saer- L. 53. *tibri*] tibriib YS; tibir M; tibre RE. *tra*] om. L.

There he begged a boon  
 at the place where the soldier cut him down (?) 50  
 that his name should serve—O deed of woe!—  
 to designate the ancient hill for ever.

Known to me with laughter (?) in sooth  
 is the death of Libir and Broccaid;  
 not obscure is the cause whence is [named] 55  
 the rath where Broccaid was buried.

55. *ní h-amdarc*] L; *nir amhdacht* M; *ni harmdocht* E; *nirarmdocht*, &c. *cæt. dia*] ma M.      56. *rdth in rohadnacht*] in rath aradnacht M.

## ALMU I.

Almu Lagen, les na Fían,  
port ragnathaig Fínd fir-Fíal,  
dórala sund a slicht sain  
inní d'atá Almu ar Almain.

Almu ainm ind fir rosgab 5  
re lind Nemid na nert-blad ;  
marb thall sin tilaig úane,  
do thám opund oen-uaire.

Almu rop alaind in ben 10  
ben Nuadat móir mic Aiched  
rachunig, ba fír in dál,  
a ainm ar in enooc comlán.

Nuada drúí ba duni garg ;  
darónad leis dún dronard ;  
racomled leis almu i n-aill 15  
don dún ule ar n-a thoraínd.

Oen-gel in dún, dremne drend,  
mar nogabad éil h-Erend ;  
dond alamain tuc d'a thaig,  
is de atá Almu ar Almain. 20

Tadc mac Nuadat, nertaíd gail,  
drúí Cathair Moir cu mór-blaíd,  
dó rafacaib a athair  
Almuin cona hard-rathaib.

Ingen gnoach oc Tadc thrén, 25  
darab ainm Murni mun-chám ;  
rocunged o Chumull in ben ;  
roséarstar Tadc tæb-gel.

## ALMU I.

Almu of the Leinstermen, a fort of the Fians,  
 an abode that Find the truly noble used to frequent :  
 hither came by chance one of no common line,  
 the woman from whom Almu is so called.

Almu is the name of the man who got the place 5  
 in the time of Nemed of mighty renown ;  
 he died there on the green hill  
 of a sudden sickness in a moment.

Almu, beautiful was the woman !  
 the wife of Nuadu Mor, son of Achi ; 10  
 she entreated—just was the award—  
 that her name should be on the entire hill.

Nuadu the druid was a fierce man ;  
 by him was built a fort strong and high :  
 by him alum was rubbed on the rock 15  
 over the whole fort, after it was marked out.

All white is the fort (bitter strife),  
 as if it had received the lime of all Erin,  
 from the alum he put on his house,  
 thence is Almu so named. 20

Tadc, son of Nuadu, who strengthens valour,  
 the druid of Cathair Mor great in fame,  
 to him his father left  
 Almu with her noble possessions.

Tadc the strong had a lovely daughter 25  
 whose name was Murni Fair-neck ;  
 the woman was demanded by Cumall ;  
 Tadc the white-sided refused him.

- Rasuc Cumull ar écin,  
ingin Taide, cer gním étig ; 30  
bliadain can chert is can chlód  
do Murni ic Cumull chath-mór.
- Cíis Tade cu tren athach  
re Cond calma céat-chathach,  
ronimderg, adbul in t-ole, 35  
ronglám, ba mór in mudocht.
- Focairther o Chund chalma  
do Chumull facbáil Banba ;  
corchurset cath Cnucha thall,  
co torchair re Cond Cumall. 40
- Nói tráth re cur in chatha  
darónad fer in ratha  
re hingin Taide in tæib-gil,  
darronad Find fir-fennid.
- Luid Murni ar marbad a fir, 45  
cu ránic Almain n-oen-gil ;  
ba caintech cumthacl rabæi ;  
nirbo dethbir don deg-mnáí.
- Alaind báí in rígan cu rath,  
ocus si thæb-lán torrach ; 50  
rafocair Tade, mór in mod,  
a marbad am-mudugod.
- Roraid Cond co ngili glacc :  
“ Ba ferr lim co mbéra macc,  
inund máthair cor-rathaib 55  
do Chumall is do m’athair.”
- Diultaider ic Taide co trén ;  
do Murni ba domna dér ;  
ar nírlam a labrad,  
am-milliud, nó am-moch-marbad. 60



Cumall carried her off by force  
 the daughter of Tadc, though it was an ugly deed ; 80  
 for a year, without right and without victory,  
 did Cumall the warrior possess Murni.

Tadc wept sore awhile  
 before Cond the brave of the hundred fights :  
 he taunted him—enormous the evil !— 85  
 he reviled him,—great was the hurt !

Sentence is given by Cond the brave  
 against Cumall that he should leave Banba ;  
 so they fought the battle of Cnucha there,  
 and Cumall fell before Cond. 40

Nine hours before the battle was fought  
 was begotten the Man of Luck ;  
 on the daughter of Tadc the white-sided  
 Find the true warrior was begotten.

Murni came after the slaying of her husband, 45  
 and fared to Almu the all-white ;  
 plaintive, sorrowful she was,  
 it was not fitting for the high-born lady.

Lovely and gracious was the princess,  
 and she was great with child ; 50  
 Tadc threatened (great the deed !)  
 to kill and make an end of her.

Said Cond of the white palm :  
 “ I hold it better she should bear a son ;  
 the same mother, with her substance, 55  
 had Cumall and my father.”

Vehemently is she rejected by Tadc,  
 (to Murni it was cause of tears)  
 yet he did not dare to do what he spoke of—  
 to destroy them or slay them suddenly. 60

Dolluid co Temair find Fail  
 Murni mum-chaim enis . . . .  
 coroiarfaig do Chund can chol  
 a himthús a hordugod.

“Imthig-siu,” ar Cond, “is ced lind  
 co Fiacaíl Fí mac Conchind  
 der-fiur Cumail tall istaig  
 Bodmall B . . . .” 65

Dolluid co Temraig Margi  
 Murni mun-chai[m]cu n-ardi ;  
 Conla gilla Chuind can chol  
 ca . . . . d'a ordugod. 70

Ba fælid ria in gilla grind  
 in Fiacaíl Bí mac Conchind,  
 ba fálid Bodmall cú becht,  
 ba fælid uile in t-airecht. 75

Arsain rucad Find febda  
 rí na Fian, mór a menma ;  
 nóí mbliadna . . . mod tend,  
 rop é rig-énnid h-Erend. 80

Cungis Find ar Tade na tor  
 íc Cumull móir do marbod  
 cath can chardi dó, can dáil,  
 nó comrac oen-fir d'fagbáil.

Tade uair nír thualaing catha  
 i n-agaid ind fir-flatha,  
 rofacaib leis, ba lór dó,  
 mar robái uile Almó. A. 85

She came to fair Temair of Fail,  
Murni Fair-Neck . . . -Skin ;  
she asked the blameless Cond  
of her destiny and her disposal.

“ Go thou,” said Cond, “ (it is good in my eyes) 65  
to Fiacaíl Fí, son of Conchend :  
the own-sister of Cumall dwells with him  
Bodmall . . . .”

She went to Temair Margi,  
did Murni White-neck the high-born ; 70  
Conla, servant of Cond the blameless  
. . . . to dispose of her.

Joyful to see her was the pleasant youth  
Fiacaíl Fí, son of Conchend ;  
joyful was Bodmall, right heartily, 75  
joyful was the whole company.

Thereafter was born Find the honoured,  
king of the Fians, high his spirit !  
. . . nine years precisely  
was he the royal champion of Erin. 80

Find demanded from Tadc of the towers,  
a price for killing Cumall Mor,  
battle without respite without delay,  
or to get a duel with him man to man.

Tadc, since he could not face battle 85  
against the true-born prince,  
abandoned to him (it was enough for him)  
all Almu as it stood.

## ALMU II.

Almu robo chæm dia cois,  
ingen Beccáin brat-solois,  
ben Iuchna na cáb, cét cród,  
ó r' iarr Almu ainmniugod.

Mór dia búadaib, dia buidnib, 5  
dia slúagaib, dia sen-bruidnib,  
rofes co fonnmar a clú,  
dia n-apar ollmar Almu. A.

In tan musdáiltís 'n-a dáil 10  
fian mic Cumail enech-náir  
bat forud fer ngarg im gú,  
ropat all ard a Almu. A.

O thictís a hesair áin  
Clanna Bresail in buan-áig  
fri toisc sóid tar Segsa snu, 15  
almain dóib in deg-Almu. A.

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RBYMSS<sub>3</sub>HE. 2. *brat*] brath R. 3. *erod*] cor E. 4. *ó r' iarr*] o-  
riar BRY; orgabh M. 7. *fonnmar*] RM; fonnmor, &c. cæt. a] in R.  
8. *dianapar*] diambad M. *ollmar*] M; almor R; ollmor cæt. *Almu*] a  
almu M. 9. *musdailtís*] muscailtis B; musluidhtis, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>. 10. *fian*]  
fiann E. *mic*] om. E. 11. *bat*] bad RY; ba ME. *gú*] ga M; dú SE.  
12. *ropat all*] R; robotall BM; robotalla YS; roba thalla E; rob-oll H; robad

## ALMU II.

Almu, she was fair on foot,  
 the daughter of Beccan the bright-robed,  
 the wife of Iuchna of the tresses, with a hundred head of cattle,  
 from whom Almu sought to be named.

Many were its excellences, many its troops, 5  
 many its hosts, many its ancient hostels,  
 its fame was known in melody,  
 whence it is called mighty Almu.

When there mustered in their meeting-place  
 the Fianna of Cumall's son, frank of face, 10  
 thou wast a seat of men fierce with the spear,  
 noble and lofty wast thou, O Almu !

When Clann Bresail of the ceaseless strife  
 came to her splendid feast,  
 with desire of good cheer, across . . . . of Segais, 15  
 noble Almu was *aliment* for them.

all- S<sub>3</sub>.a] *om.* YSS<sub>3</sub>E.dín] aigh H ; áig, &c. ES<sub>3</sub>.buanáid R ; buangaid, &c. BHS<sub>3</sub>.

tar] fri MH. Segsa] seca H.

almu H ; almóin S<sub>3</sub> ; almoin, *cæt.*13. ó *thictís*] otchidis R ; a tigidis BS.

14. buandig] E ; buanaigh Y ; buanaidh SM ;

15. sóid] sloig, &c. YEHS<sub>3</sub> ; soidh, &c. *cæt.*

snu] sna S.

16. *almain*] abalmain B ;*Almu*] almsa Y ; alma S ; дума E.

## ALEND.

Alend óenach diar n-ócaib,  
ráth Airt cona ríg-rótaib,  
fertas búada for a blai,  
conosfuair Fál mac Fídgai.

Fert in' rochland Conchend clí 5  
mac Fergnai, fer co find-lí,  
lerg-luam Lugdach, letrad caile,  
for adba Setnai síthbaice.

Brug forsbíd Messdelmond dúr, 10  
leis conuargbad a ard-múr;  
is d' a brunnib attib dig  
Mess Scott Scegra di Laignib.

Faithche Ruamaínd, ruamnad rind, 15  
co falgib flatha forfind,  
tír chadla, cathir crichid,  
grianán i mbíd Andrithir.

Ferand Fergusa fairge, 20  
orba uais co n-imarde,  
flesc Find maic Rossa rebaig,  
rig-dinn Bresail Bregamain.

Luchdond letrad lecne liach  
ótá Gabrán co Áth Clíath,  
i Fáil Segi snáad lind,  
ba garga a gluind im Alind. A.

---

LRBYMHSS<sub>3</sub>E. 2. *cona*] co L. 3. *fertas*] L; *ferdais cat.* *for a blai*  
foroblai M. 4. *co*] L; *dia cat.* 5. *in*] and M. 6. *-lí*] cli RB.  
7. *luam*] *om.* BR (*luā superser. in B.*) *letrad*] leactrad Y; leatera M.  
8. *for adba*] forad ba RB; forad ua HS<sub>3</sub>; forad. h. Y. *síthbaice*] síthbailc,  
&c. MS. 9. *forsbíd*] formbith B. 10. *conuargbad*] conaurgbad L;  
connuargaib R; contuarebadh M. *a*] int E. 11. *brunnib*] bruighnib S;  
brugindib M. 12. *Mess Scott Scegra*] meas reot sega R; measgeadragod Y.

## ALEND.

Alend, meeting place for our youths,  
 rath of Art with his royal roads :  
 the chariot pole of victory was he on its plain  
 till Fal, son of Fidga, met him :

The grave where Conchend planted his roofpole, 5  
 the son of Fergna, a hero of fair fame,  
 field-captain of Lugaid, hewer of targes ;  
 over the seat of Setna Long-staff :

The stead where dwelt stern Messdelmond,  
 by him was reared its lofty wall ; 10  
 from its springs a draught was drained  
 by Mess Scegra the Scot of Leinster :

The lawn of Ruamand, where the spear-point grew red,  
 with the sties of the honourable prince ;  
 a lovely land, a perfect citadel, 15  
 the sollar where dwelt Andrithir :

The demesne of Fergus Fairge  
 a proud and eminent heritage :  
 the portion of nimble Find mac Rosa  
 the royal keep of Bressal Bregaman : 20

Luchdond, grievous scarring of cheeks,  
 from Gabran even unto Ath Cliath !  
 in Fal Segi would he swim the water,  
 dire were his deeds around Alend :

13. *Ruamaind*] ruaind BYS; rumaing R. 14. *falgið*] failgidh M. *forfind*  
*ferinn* S; foirind M. 15. *chriohid*] trucid R; cridigh E. 16. *imbid*] L;  
*forsmbit*, &c. *cet. andrithir*] manindir RB; mænindir, &c. YHS<sub>3</sub>; maininnir M;  
 minaindir SE. 17. *Fergusu*] Fergais RB. 18. *orba*] gorba M. *imairde*]  
 imairge YS; imairge E. 21. *liach*] liath YS. 22. *Gabrán*] Garban R.  
 23. *ifáil*] for selb, &c. BYMHS<sub>3</sub>; for sleib RSE. *snadað*] snadhad E; snadai H.  
 24. *garga*] garg HES<sub>3</sub>. *in*] in L.

Bethir bethrach, breó co ngail, lepad luithech do læchraid, fri ré Niad Corb, calma cend, bat adma adba Alend:           A.	25
Carpas Catháir, comrar sét, taille rothairmcell triathu trét, lúad cech medra, monur nglé, ard-rí Emna is Alinde:           A.	30
Fidchell Fhiachach, búadach rí, dracon daigrech, dron a chrí, ruamnais tria rígu rinne, nenaise niathu Alinde:           A.	35
Brí Bresail beólaig fri gail: leis ba Tuaim Tenbad Temair: rí gorm for gabru grinne rochroth armu Alinde:           A.	40
Sruthar sæglond nodassaig, Segsa snás a Síd Nechtain; Life, luathem a linne: tibit tulgag Alinde.           A.	
Triar trén-fer, trialla clas, Buirech, Fiach is Aururas, ite cen meth, monor nglé, acclaidset múr nAlinde.       A.	45

25. *bethrach*] bretec R; Þrach S; berchich E. *co ngail*] L; coneim, &c. *cæt.*  
 26. *læchraid*] læchrad L; læchraib BH; læchaib YSE. 27. *fri*] ri L. *niad*] mog, &c. YSE. *cend*] L; in *cend cæt.* 28. *bat adma alba*] latadba adhmo Y; ba tadhma a fadba M; ba tadhbha alma S; ba hadba alma E; ba hadbho albhái, &c. HS<sub>3</sub>. 29-32] *om.* E; *added in margin* YS. 29. *comrar*] L; comra, &c. *cæt.* *thairmchell*] taircell R. 31. *luad*] luath S. *medra*] medrad R. *ngle*] nglind R. 32. *ard-rí*] airidi B; airde R. 33. *Fiachach*] fiacrach, &c. YS; fiaca E. *buadach*] buadan B. 34. *dracon*] L; draeu, &c., *cæt.* *daigrech*] draidneach Y. *dron a chrí*] L; dronach B; dron a cli, &c. *cæt.* 35. *rígu*] rígu a L; riga, &c. RES<sub>3</sub>; rigai H; rigi M. 36. *nenaise*] cenaisg *with vel n superscr.* Y; cenaise E. *niathu*] L; nitha, &c. RH;



A furious (?) bear, a flame of valour, 25  
 a resting-place giving vigour to heroes  
 in the time of Nia Corb (brave chief!)  
 thou wast a home of the wise, O Alend!

The chariot of Cathair, coffer of treasures ;  
 valiantly did he encompass the leaders of herds ; 30  
 burden of all discourse (clear fact!)  
 is the high king of Emain and Alend.

The chess-board of Fiachu, victorious king,  
 fiery dragon (stout his body!) ;  
 through his kings he made spear-points red ; 35  
 he bound the champions of Alend.

The hill of Bressal Beolach the valorous,  
 to him belonged Tuaim Tenbath Temair,  
 against spruce steeds the famous king  
 brandished the weapons of Alend. 40

A lordly river visits it,  
 the Segais which flows from Sid Nechtain,  
 [and] Life, swiftest his waters :  
 they drain the bare plain of Alend.

Three mighty men [made] essays of trenchings, 45  
 Burech, Fiach, and Aururas :  
 it is they who without flagging (clear fact!)  
 dug the rampart of Alend.

nithu, &c. BYMSE; niothe S<sub>3</sub>. 37. *beolaig*] *belai*g, &c. ME. *fri gail*] ri  
 gail L; co mblaid, &c. *cæt*. 38. *Tenbað*] Tenba RES<sub>3</sub>; tenfa, &c. YM;  
 tenbai H. 40. *armu*] arbrú, &c. YSS<sub>3</sub>H; forba M. 41. *sægland*] saiglend,  
 &c. YSE. *nodassaig*] nodasfail L (*with* vel saig *superscr.*); nosussaig (*with* d  
*superscr.*) B; nodusaigh R; rodussaig E. 42. *snás*] senas L. 43. *Life*]  
 Liphea L; is liphe S. *luathem linne*] L; luath imlinde, &c. BS; luath  
 imalinde, &c. RHS<sub>3</sub>; luathama lindi Y; luathina linde E; luath umlinde aille M.  
 44. *tíbit tulmag*] L; fri forglá. h. RB; fri forglá huath, &c. YSS<sub>3</sub>H; fri forglá  
 tuath E; frith forcla thuath M. 45. *trialla*] trialta BRHS<sub>3</sub>; trialta a SE;  
 telta a M; cartrialta a Y. 46. *Buirech Fiach is*] fiach burech L.  
 47. *monor*] imgnim SE. *ngle*] om. R. 48. *acclaidset*] roclaisead M;  
 accláiset, &c. SE; conclaidhsid S<sub>3</sub>.

Buirech focheird uad do ráith  
 dar in múr, nírbo rothláith, 50  
 ail focheird dia rigid rind  
 conid hí 's ail i n-Alind. A.

Robái sund . . ben Balla,  
 ingen Lugdach læch-banna,  
 fria gairm nírbo dirgna dremm, 55  
 diarbo ainm ríгда Alend. A.

49. *Buirech*] Buiredach B.      *do*] a M; eo E.      50. *in*] *om.*  
 L; a M.      *nírbo rothláith*] mbruineach mborbthlaith, &c. YE;  
 mbruidhneach mborbthláith S; mbraineach morblaith H; nimur rothlaith M;

Buirech cast from him straightway  
 across the rampart (no weakling he!)— 50  
 a stone he cast from his spear-arm ;  
 and that is the *ail* in Alend.

Here dwelt the wife of Balla,  
 heroic daughter of Lugaid ;  
 the clan was not disgraced by her repute ; 55  
 from her came the royal name of Alend.

mbrainnech morblaith S<sub>3</sub>. 51. *ail focheird*] L; cloch da triall M; cloch rotelg,  
 &c. *cæt.* *dia*] uad dia L. 52. *hi*] ní L. 53-56] *in margin of L only.*



**NOTES.**



# NOTES.

## RATH ESA.

ETAİN (or Etaine) was a princess of the *des síde*, among whom she lived a thousand years as wife of Midir, till through the jealousy and magic arts of her rival Fuamnach she was carried off from her fairy husband, and underwent a second birth as the daughter of a mortal. She became the wife of Eochaid Airem, King of Ireland; but Midir won her back from him at chess, and carried her, along with her daughter Esa, to his fairy palace of Bri Leith. This poem tells how Eochaid won back wife and daughter. The sequel to the fortunes of Etain, Midir and Eochaid is contained in the *Brúden Da Derga*. For the literature on the subject, see the introduction to Stokes' edition of that tale; and to Windisch's edition of the *Tochmarc Etáine* (*Irische Texte* 1, 113). A translation of the LU text of the *Tochmarc* will be found in Thurneysen's *Sagen aus dem alten Irland*, 77. The whole series of legends, and the different versions of each, have been fully discussed by Nettlau in vols. xii. and xiii. of the *Revue Celtique*.

Midir's abduction of Etain is referred to again in the Dindshenchas article on Rath Cruachan.

This poem is ascribed in S<sub>2</sub> to Cinaeth úa Hartacáin: in H to "Maicniadh mac Aonacáin."

2. As *tichtain* is feminine, we must either read *bruthmair* against the mss., or regard *bruthmar* as a nominative agreeing with *báire*.

5. Esa is also called Etain: see IT i. 130, 15.

7. The prose Dindshenchas says that 'a hundred of every kind of cattle were brought [by Esa] to Midir, after Etain had been carried off from Eochaid.'

8. *bés* seems here to mean 'tax, tribute' (cf. Meyer, *Contribb.*), and to refer to the cattle gathered by Esa.

LL reads *bíán* for *buaid*; and this may be right, but I have no other instance of this word used as a substantive.

12. The gloss on this poem printed by Meyer in ACL iii. 143 from H. 3. 18, p. 467, explains *nen* by *eumal*; and this is supported by LBr 238<sup>d</sup> a 24 where a *nen* is glossed a *hinilt*. It is also possible that we should read *n-ena*: this adjective, which means perhaps 'proud,' occurs in SnR 4431 *immon n-eclais n-ena n-aird*; LL 192 b 35 *comul n-ena*; BB 374 a 32 *conid and sid n-ena* (a proper name?); BB 17 b 7 *reim n-eana*.

14. *ólaig*. It was at a banquet that Midir appeared and carried off Etain. He promises her *Cíd mesc lib coirm Inse Fáil, is mescu coirm tíre máir* (LU 131 b 35).

15. *aire-glan*. This epithet is repeated in 23, and in 89 is applied to Etain. It seems to be derived from *aire* 'the temples.' As applied to a place it can only be understood metaphorically; *grúaid* 'cheek' is similarly used of places; e. g. LL 164 b 19, for *grúaid Ailig*; 215 a 38 *dar slim-gruad sær sen-Charmuin*. But in 15 it may refer to Etain, and perhaps it may have found its way thence to 23, by the error of an early scribe. The variant *airerglan* is glossed by O'Cl. *oirearglan* .i. *aoibhinnglan*.

27. *dolaim* is defended by the rhyme. I do not know the word as a substantive, but suppose it to be connected with *dolam* 'slow,' *dolma* 'delay' SnR. The true reading may, however, be *oca ndlomaisin* 'repulsing them': cf. O'Cl. *dlomaisin*.

32. *ruibnech*. H. 3. 18 (as above) explains this word as *robuidnech*: cf. Wi. s. v. *ruibne* (2). But this meaning does not suit Bend Etair ii. 66 (Todd. Lect. vii. 60) *ceud ruad ruibnech*; cf. Cath Finntr. index s. v.

41. *Mess Buachalla*: see *Bruden Da Derga* (ed. Stokes), pp. 11, 12.

42, 44. *chélig*—*Ébir*. L has *chelig*, without the mark of length: the other readings give no rhyme. But what does *chelig* mean? At Mag Life 6 (*infra*) L again reads *Conaire chelig* against the other mss: at Ráth Chnamrossa 10 (LL 195 a 34) we have *mac Conaire chélig*: for *célech* see Meyer, *Contribb*. The objection to reading *chélig* in our passage is that *Eber* has generally no mark of length. But this is by no means always the case: see LL 14 a z, 14 b 18, 15 a 3, 21, 16 b 2, 37, 42. It seems, then, that the quantity is undetermined, and I feel justified in writing *Ébir*.

43. *fuachalda*: reading and meaning are uncertain. O'Cl. has *nuacholla* .i. *uathbásach*.

Midir induced Eochaid to commit unwitting incest with his daughter: Mess Buachalla was the fruit of this unnatural union: see Rev. Celt. xii. 235-9. To this 43 seems to refer.

46. *Bri Léith*. L has *bria*. The true genitive is *breg*: dat. *brig*: in 12 and 24 all mss. have *brí*.

55. *decharða* may be referred to *dechur* 'division' (so Meyer, ZCP iii. 429), or to *dechrad* 'fury.'

57. The fragmentary tale in LU 131 gives an account of the making of the *tochur*. Eochaid learnt from the *Síde*, on this occasion, the art of making oxen work in the yoke; hence his cognomen *Airem*, 'Ploughman.' *Iarsin doberar uir ocus grian ocus clocha forsin monai. For etnu dam dano bátár fedmand la firu h-Erend cosin n-aidchi-sin, conaiceas la lucht in t-shíde for a formnaib. Do gnith samlaid la Eochdaig, conid de atá do-som Echaid Airem, ar is aice toisech tuad euing for muinélaib dam do feraib h-Erend.*



It seems from this that the four things demanded are corvees imposed on Midir's people rather than rights claimed by Eochaid, as Stokes suggests, RC xvi. 308. Cf. LU 132 a 5.

67. *-asoerad* seems to be impf. subj. of *asorgim*, for *-esorrad* (?).

69. These three fortresses are named together in a verse written on the top margin of LL 164 (quoted Sil. Gad. ii. 520). *belgach* seems to be a derivative of *belach*: at all events it must be distinct from *bélgach* 'talkative.'

70. *cétach* is a bad rhyme to *Étar*; and the disagreement of the mss. indicates corruption.

77. The reading of L, *coll* for *cúl*, is perhaps right: 'after a breach of the truce.'

81. *bile*, like *gas*, &c., is used metaphorically of persons. See Meyer, *Contributions*: and compare Temair iv. 14 *ba borg-bile co mbadb-slait*. (Todd Lect. viii. 28.

89-96. The events here referred to are known only by casual allusions. In LL 121 b 52 occur these lines:—

*Atá cend Ehdach indiu*  
*is-Síd Nenta iar n-uscú.*

It seems that Sigmall carried on the quarrel of his grandfather Midir, and finally destroyed Eochaid Airem at Fremand: see LL 23 a 37, 131 b 39: FM 5084. His own fate is recorded in LL 11 b 20 (cf. LU 129 b 18). O'Donovan identifies his palace of Sid Nenta (in his note on FM 5084) with Mullaghshee in Roscommon. In his *Hy Many*, p. 6, he had placed it at Fairymount near the north end of Lough Ree. The words *iar n-uscú* need not be regarded as a note of real place: such dwellings of the *des síde* were often imagined as opening on 'seas in fairy lands forlorn': cf. Nutt, *Voyage of Bran*, i. 229. In the *Bruden Da Chocae*, this place is again called *Síth Nenta ier n-usce* (RC 21, 152); while in the *Cophur in da Muccida*, it is referred to as *Síd Nento fo huisce* (IT iii. 238 (line 90), 240 (line 280)). *Argain Síde Nenta* is the title of one of the lost tales: see O'Curry, *Lectures*, 591.

85. *Ogniad* is mentioned in the catalogue of women, LL 137 a 30.

94. *síd*: perhaps 'peace.'

## BRUG I.

THE Brug mic ind Óc is the famous Brug na Bóinde. The story of the trick by which the Mac ind Oc obtained it from his father the Dagda is told in LL 209 a 50, *seq.*

1. *a maig.* All mss. except S agree here on this form of the vocative, whereas in 74 LU (the only ms.) has *a mag.*

2. The reading of all the later mss. *srethaib sét* would mean 'with a series of roads'; cf. Ailech ii. 31 (Todd Lect. vii. 44) *dar sreith slige.*

3. *forolgais*; from *folraigim.*

4. *immotrét* seems a t-pret., from \**imm-emain.*

7. *féig.* Cf. IT iii. 535 *esca féig*, where Windisch renders 'klares.'

8. *indsech* possibly means 'peaceful': cf. IT ii. 1, 41, line 1280, *bith-indes* (sic leg.). But *indsech* 'islanded' occurs in *Togail Trói.*

13. *Ingen Foraind*: presumably the wife of Miled is meant: see O'Mahony's Keating, 164.

14. *mál*: as a rule not applied to a woman; but see O'Cl. s. v.

16. The reading is doubtful. LU's *ignod* is difficult to explain. Perhaps it should be *in gnod*. This would supply alliteration, and a response to *tor* in 15; but the meaning would be obscure: *gnod* is glossed *rinn*: see Stokes, *Metrical Glossaries*, 22, 85.

17. 'Fiacc's Pool' is mentioned as 'on the Boyne,' IT iv., lines 56, 2346: cf. LL 209 b 42 *Féic lind.*

25. For the Mátha (or Mátá) see the Dindshenchas of Ath Cliath, Todd Lect. vii. 21.

29. *Boadan* is mentioned by the Four Masters 861 (cf. Annals of Ulster, 862) as the herd of Elcmar, one of the princes of the Tuatha Dé. The 'Cowhide' is evidently the name of some landmark or notable object.

30. *a liac.* The *a* is added below the line: it may be an interpolation, *liac* being scanned as a disyllable.

33. I suppose *Ferta na Fáilenn* to be another local name: *foilenn* glosses *alcedo*, Thes. Palæo-Hib. ii. 136, 231. The modern *faileann* means 'sea-gull.' The word may here have a metaphorical application, like the "Wild Geese" of later days.

For *fertae* 'trench' (fem. sing.), cf. Thes. Palæo-Hib. ii. 259 *ad Ferti virorum Fecc quam foderunt* etc.: *ibid.* 263 *hi Ferti virorum Feice*.

36. *forfein*: from *forbenim*. Finn was killed by Aichlech, one of the Luaigne, a tribe who lived near Tara: see Sil. Gadel. i. 91.

38. This Cellach is probably the son of Cormac whom Aengus Gaibuaidech killed for seducing his niece: Laws iii. 82; LU 53 a 41; *mellach* will therefore have the sense of 'cajoling,' which appears in the modern use of *meallaim*.

41. *barc*. The prose *Dindshenchas* (RC xv. 292) mentions the *Barc Crimthainn Nia Nair* among the 'remarkable things of the Brug.' *Barc* like *long* is applied metaphorically to houses: cf. *Temair* iii. 57, 58 *long na lech, frisanabar barc ban mbæth* (*Todd Lect.* viii. 18). *Braineach* may mean 'eminent' or may denote the shape of the structure. *Tor* 'tower,' by a common metaphor, means 'champion.'

42. *tomn* is preferable to *trom* (the reading of LU) as giving a response to *tromm* in 41. In Irish (as in French) poetry, words of identical form are admissible rhymes only if they differ in meaning.

43. According to the *Senchas na Relec*, all the kings of Tara down to *Cremthann* were buried at *Cruachan*. But "the nobles of the *Tuatha De Denann* were used to bury at the Brug . . . and *Cremthann* followed them because his wife *Nar* was of the *Tuatha Dea*" (*Petrie, Eccles. Archit.* 100-101).

45. I know nothing of *Fintan Feradach*.

51. *écradach*. *Strachan (Middle-Ir. Decl.* 18) has collected instances in which the predicative adjective is uninflected: cf. 77 *iatsom dimbian*.

53, 57. The *Senchas na Relec* explains why *Cormac* and *Art* were not buried in the Brug: (*Eccles. Archit.* 100-101).

54. *inman-aigtís luirg*: cf. LL 50, 14 *immundaigtís buidne bend*. It might be better to render 'round whom were driven chariot-tracks.' If *lorg* 'club' ever followed the masculine declension, we might translate 'on whom clubs were plied.'

70. *bés nirbo rom*. Cf. *bes ni rom* LU 40 a 39. In both instances *bés* might be rendered 'perhaps.'

75. If *dersat* is right, it must be 3 pl. pres. subj. of *doíchim* 'I punish': cf. Strachan, Sigm. Fut. 4. The meaning then is general: if men persecute the faithful, they will suffer worse things themselves hereafter.

But it is tempting to read *dersat*: we may then regard the collective *cúane* as the antecedent, and line 74 as a parenthesis, and translate: 'a brood . . . that did not pay worship to the true God: so much the worse for them now!'

78. *slán* seems to mean 'saved by their faith.'

81-84. I can make nothing of these lines. *Séil* may be the river Sele: cf. *flumen Séle*, Thes. Palæo-Hib. ii. 263; and Dinds. of Tailtiu, 78 (LL 200 b 50). *Senbec ua Ebric* is mentioned (BB 308 b 27) as a *sai eesidh*: according to O'Curry, MC ii. 50, he was a historian of the Tuatha De Danann. Perhaps in 83 *uaibrig* should be *Ebric*. And *Cennindais* may be the place-name (now Kells).

85. *cond* 'head' seems here to mean 'headquarters.'

86. The meaning of *dond* is doubtful: it is glossed by O'Dav. *uasal nó brithem nó rígh*.

87. *rán-tor* seems to be intended as a response to *ard-ehon*.

## BRUG II.

15, 16. I have kept L's text, as it is defensible; but the reading of all other mss. *airn i ngéinair . . . mar óen* is preferable.

17. *ben mic Nímat*. Boand, wife of Nechtain. She bore Oengus to the Dagda. Her dog's name was Dabilla (see prose Dindshenchas). The poem (ascribed to Cinad Ua Hartacain), which begins LL 209 b 25, and is continued at 208 b 1, tells the story of the birth of Oengus: how he was abandoned by his parents, and how Midir carried him off to Bri Léith (209 a 6): how he returned to seek out his rightful father, the Dagda, and made a feast for him: how the Dagda offered him a boon in return: and how Oengus won the possession of the Brug from him by a verbal quibble (209 a 50). To this trick the words *cialla cor* (25) seem to refer.

22. For *fríth* 'discovery, trouvaille,' cf. Sil. Gad. i. 33, 10 *fó fríth fuamar*; LL 147 b 40 *ní hinunn fríth fogeib cách*: LU 114 b 23 *ba hamrae in fríth*.

32. *Duma Treisc*, 'the Barrow of Offal,' named from the broken meats of the feast: cf. Tochm. Emire (quoted by Meyer, index to Aisl. M. C.): *ait in rocuired a tresc dorigne enoc mór de: ba hé a ainm, Trese in Mdirimdíll*. O'Reilly has *treasg* 'refuse,' 'chaff'; and *tresc* 'lees,' 'hogwash.'

34. *adba mbróin*. I have not elsewhere found *adba* neuter: but the change from neuter to feminine is very common. All mss. except L have *ba badba bróin*, which seems meaningless.

38. *a teletís cesta*. This seems to imply some kind of *sortilegium*, but I can find no other reference to the place or the custom. Esclam, according to the prose Dindshenchas, was the Dagda's brehon. Perhaps, then, we should translate 'used to solve questions,' but I have no instance of *dolécim* in this sense.

41. It is difficult to determine the reading for want of information as to the incident referred to. L has *m̄ba Buile* (not as in the facsimile *m̄ba*): most of the other texts, and the prose, read *Bualc* or *Buailc*. I can find nothing about this person; and lines 43, 44 are consequently obscure to me. *lib* (43) is apparently an adjective. Dinneen has *lib* 'dripping.' I read *glund* in 44, supposing it to be dative of *glond*: the meaning assigned is doubtful: see Rev. Celt. xxiv. 69. Perhaps *fiad-glond* 'honourable deed.'

45. This Cellach is called in the prose 'son of Maelcoba': he is, then, the Cellach who was the joint-king of Ireland with Conall, and died at Brug na Boinne, according to the Four Masters, 656 (653 AU). His partner Conall is there said to have been killed by Diarmaid, son of Aed Slaine: it seems, then, that Cellach was killed at the same time, and that the 'pair' referred to in 47 are Diarmaid and his brother Blathmac, who took the kingship on the deaths of Conall and Cellach. There were different accounts of the death of Cellach: see AU 657, 663. The Cellach mentioned in Brug i. 38 is probably quite a different person.

48. I can only guess at the meaning of *bæthla*—if that be the true reading. Most of the mss. have *baethbla*, which O'Cl. glosses by *baothbaile*.

50. Cinaed, son of Irgalach, was king of Ireland A.D. 720 to 722.  
*galma*: cf. SnR 5547 *galma 7 glóir*. O'Clery glosses the word *i. crúas*.

53. *Currel*. Stokes RC xv. 292 translates 'casket.' But in his edition of the *Bruden Da Derga* he translates the phrase *cír chuirréil argit* 'a bright comb of silver,' and suggests a derivation from \**con-réil*. This may be right, but does not explain our passage. It seems to me that we have to do here with a different word; *curel* 'coral' occurs in the Irish version of Marco Polo ZCP i. 384: O'Begley has *coiréal*. On the use of coral among the Celtic peoples, see S. Reinach in *Rev. Celt.* xx.

56. For *ar chách* see Meyer, *Contribb.*, s. vv. *cách*, *achách*.

59. *gáela*. O'Reilly has *gaol* 'wound': cf. *gáelim* 'I break,' SnR. But perhaps we should refer the word to *gael* 'kinship,' though the genitive is regularly *gaeil* (Atk. PH: Dinneen, Dict.).

60. The word *síd* seems to imply that Aed Lurgnech belonged to the Tuatha De, but I have found no other reference to him.

61, 62. *ruamna* means properly 'redness': *cúan-bla* seems to be compounded of *cúan* 'troop' and *bla* 'place': *cliach* I understand as gen. pl. of *cliu*.

64. This presumably refers to the wounding of the Morrigan by Cuchulainn: see Miss Faraday's 'Cattle Raid of Cualnge,' pp. 79-81. The ford where the fight took place has not been identified, but it cannot have been very far from Brug na Bóinne.

69. I conjecture *edtha*, regarding it as plural of *edith* 'husks, rubbish,' Meyer, *Contribb.*: here the debris of a skeleton. This supplies a response to *Mátha* in 70.

As to this monster, see Ds. of Ath Cliath (RC xv. 329, Todd Lect. vii. 20), where it is said to have been slain at "Lecc Bend on Brug mic ind Oc." LL gives the form *mátha* here and in 75, 83: so in Brug i. 25, LU has *mátha*.

74. *toich* seems to be the word found in Wb. 9 *a is toich dom* gl. est accepta mihi: see Wi. s.v., and cf. LL 147 *a 6 in bé thondgel toich*.

88. The meaning seems to be that the barrow (called in the prose *Duma na Cnám*) belongs to the *Matha* whose memory it preserves.

89. The obit of Oengus, son of Crundmael, abbot of Duleek, is recorded by the Four Masters *a. 778*: in the Annals of Ulster *a. 782*.

93. *Róot* is here a disyllable, answering to *Óoc*. The prose has *róut síla Midir*: I know of no other allusion to the incident, except O'Clery's gloss, s. v. *ród*, and perhaps the verse at LU 149 *a 21*.

95. *robriss* may be either transitive or intransitive.

96. *asidchói*: pres. subj. of *ascúad*: see Meyer, *Contribb.*

## IMBER N-AILBINE.

THIS poem has been published from BB by O'Curry with a translation in *Atlantis*, vol. iv. 235.

The legend is told in the Tochmarc Emire : see ZCP iii. 243. The poet has drawn from this source several phrases which are noted below.

The metre is extremely elaborate. All four lines of each stanza rhyme, the first and third lines ending in monosyllables, the second and fourth either in disyllables or in trisyllables. There are internal responses (sometimes double) between the first and second lines and between the third and fourth. Alliteration is strictly observed.

1. *Muirid*. The prose says that Ruad was grandson of the king of the Fir Muirid.

2. *do nach* seems here to be used as in the construction illustrated by Atkinson, PH 817 a: *taibnire* (or *tuilmire*) is compounded from *toil* and *uire*: cf. note on *talchar*, Ochan 62.

3. *trebthus* seems to mean 'dwelling': cf. Mag Luirg 1 (LL 211 a 48) *Is eol dam im threibthas tó*: Mag n-Aidni 7 (LL 156 b 40) *as mo threbthus co turad*. These passages support the reading of YH.

5. *rót-bla*. The second element of the compound seems to mean 'noise, fame.' The word occurs at LL 10 b 25 in an obscure poem.

9, 10. It seems natural to take *maith-mora* as a compound: this would involve writing, in 9, *raith-roga* 'chief of courses' (*raith* for *rith*).

10. *moch-maill*: cf. *Druim Dairbrech* 18, and Dinneen's Dict.

13. *tri nóitib*: so ZCP iii. 243 *teuora noaib*. *noithech* responds to *soithech*, but in Rath Essa 84 LL has *nóithech*: so too O'Clery. The word occurs eight times in SnR without the mark of length: in SnR 13 it rhymes with *immchloithech*, a word of doubtful derivation: none of the other passages demands a long vowel.

17. *líd as* 'to stir thence in any direction': *as* = inde.

21. *'mosláí*: see Wi. *immlai*, and cf. Faffand, 33. *tairdbe*, 'cutting,' see Glossary to Laws.

22-24. These lines are variously corrupted in the different mss. They must be emended by the aid of the metre. The only pair of end-rhymes offered are *sroth saoba* (H) with *dluth-choema* (RB). *bain-delba* (cf. ZCP iii. 243) must be answered by *sain-delgna*. The second element of this word probably means 'retirement,' 'separation,' or the like: cf. *delgnaide* 'outlaw,' O'R; *dealgnach* 'outlaw,' Dinneen; *delgnaim* in SnR seems to mean 'I distinguish.' *sruth-sóeba*, which O'Cl. glosses .i. *saobchoire* 'whirlpool,' is probably gen. fem. of a compound adjective (for *sruth-sóibe*) in agreement with *fairge*. I have therefore changed the order of the first three words, but perhaps the inversion is deliberately adopted for the sake of alliteration; if so, we may keep *fairge tar sál*.

25, 26. *Fodroirgetar* is certainly sound: cf. Tochm. Em. ZCP iii. 243 *atdam-natar dobatar se fotrergatar na longa*. But this gives no rhyme to *indsaigid*, so that four lines must have fallen out. Further, line 26 is in all texts except M short of a syllable, and M's *ba he fhad* is unintelligible. A response to *glé-alt* (see O'Cl.) is required: perhaps we should read *ba hé fast*, which would also supply alliteration in 26. O'Reilly has *fast* 'a prison': cf. *fastaim* 'I arrest.'

33. Cf. ZCP iii. 243 *dobertatar noi longæ oir ar noi n-oidcib dia fess leu*.

38. *malart*: this form (not *malairt*) is required to answer *alacht*. For the mis-writing *maralt* cf. SGI 84, line 33: *iaram bu hálacht in ben: ropo máralt áirmiten*, where the word has again the sense of 'altering for the worse': cf. Stokes' O'Davoren, 1236.

39. *cisal*. This word elsewhere is explained to mean 'the devil': here it perhaps has the sense of 'sin' or 'harm.'

42. *tuintib*: cf. Four Masters, p. 2060 x, *rocheimnighsiot . . ina ttuimtibh tuigha toirtemhla 7 ina ndoiredhaibh dluihe doscáoille* 'they proceeded in close and solid bodies and in compact, impenetrable squadrons' (lit. 'oakwoods'). The expression is evidently metaphorical, and *tuimtibh* is perhaps literally 'balls of thread'; hence 'compact companies': cf. *toinnt* 'thread,' Conneys: *taoinnte* (and *tuinnte*) 'thread,' Dinneen.

43. *so-all*: this compound occurs again in an unintelligible passage LL 119 a 18. O'Clery has *soalt* .i. *léim maith*; so also O'R.

50. I have adopted the reading *fial-mod*, although it is supported only by two late mss., because otherwise there is no internal response between 49 and 50: besides, the *fial mo* of RY points in this direction. The word is found also at LL 18 b 5. O'Clery has *mod* .i. *fear*: cf. Mide 7. At BB 327 b 21 *mod* is explained as *cach ferda*. If this curious passage contains anything more than the vagaries of a grammarian, the word may be a legacy from a pre-Goidelic population.

53. O'Clery has *eismeach* 'lying,' 'unready.'

60. Cf. ZCP iii. 244 *Rocolatar ind fir ind amar ina nói umaídi*.

64. *setal-bale* for *selat-balc* 'moment-strong': for the metathesis cf. Carn ui Cathbad 41 (LL 199 a 56): BB 37 b 45: O'Cl. *seadal*.

66. *drongdige* is well supported, and gives a good rhyme, but what does it mean?

75. *cacad* for *cocad*, answered by *-apad*.

78. *rige*: cf. LL 157 b 33, *a rí rige*. O'R. has *righe* 'depredation.'

81. *tnú*. Most mss. read *trú*: if this is right, it must be regarded as an abstract noun, 'ill-luck.'

87. *tuiredach* is no doubt a derivative of *turid*, which is applied metaphorically to chieftains, cf. 57.

94. *toimsech*: a derivative of *tomus*. Cf. Ailech ii. 46 (Todd Lect. vii. 46); Loch Dacháech 18 (BB 372 b 21).



## OCHAN.

The story of the slaying of Niall of the Nine Hostages by his enemy Eochu, son of Enna Cendselach, is fully told in the tract edited by Meyer in *Olta Mersciana* ii. 84.

There is a copy of a different recension of this tract at BB 134 b 27. It is there prefaced by an introductory notice of Eochu, in which lines 17-20 of our poem are quoted (BB 134 b 7). In this passage, as in LL, the poem is attributed to Cináeth ua Hartacain, who died in 973 (FM) or 974 (AU, Tigern.). K. Meyer (Festschr. Wh. Stokes) has edited an elegy on Niall. See also O'Mahony's Keating, 390 seq.

2. These adjectives can only refer to Niall, so that the reading adopted gives a much better order than the *lettir* of L, which is supported by most mss.

*dichmaig*. This word occurs also in SnR: cf. LL 35 b 53, *debaid dichmaig*.

3. *slige* for *sliged*.

7. *roreraiḡ*: for this use of *rigim* see Atk., *Lib. Hymn.* i. 262.

18. For *bág* 'pledge, alliance' see Meyer, *Contribb.* The line is quoted at BB 134 b 7 with *fri baig*.

22. *serig*: see SnR, index. *diis* is explained by O'Dav. 682, first by *usal* and then by *sét*. Cf. V. Bran, index.

24. Cf. BB 135 a 42 *romeabadar .vii. catha riana gnuis iarna egaib*.

26. *cen* gives no satisfactory sense, unless indeed it is to be construed with *albert*. *tria rún* 'through his (Eochu's) secret plot.'

30. *gaeth-rian*. O'Clery has *gaeth* .i. *fairge*. Cf. *gaethamail* 'marshy,' *góith-luch* 'marsh,' Windisch. So that *rian*, which is found only in LH, may be merely an intruding gloss. In 26 *muir* has similarly found its way into the text of L. We may, then, omit *rian*, and keep *ba trom*.

31. So BB 135 a 15 *cóic geill Erend 7 geill Alban 7 Saxan 7 Breatan 7 Frange*: *ibid.* 26 *do dt'acallaim-si dodeacha[d]sa o Romancaib. Alla-sa [hi] cind coicidís dodtiefad a ngeill*: 'I have come from the Romans to speak with thee, and this day fortnight their hostages will come to thee.'

33. *Lótar*: for the plural verb with the collective *fian*, cf. *Almu* ii. 9.

35. *brón baisse* = *planctus*: cf. *bass* 'a smack with the hand' Meyer, *Contribb.*

39. *rodasní*. *Snim* has two principal meanings (1) 'I join, rivet, weave,' (2) 'I vex.' The meaning might be either 'he had joined them together under his sovereignty': or 'he had caused them grief,' *i.e.* by his death, or, perhaps, by his domination. The second meaning is required in the similar passage, *Slige Dala* 80 (LL 155 b 46) *is rempu sain, rodasní*; 'flying before them (he had angered them).' O'Clery has *rodasní* .i. *dosín*.

41. *dosrimthais*: cf. *doimnthastar* 'is combined,' Thes. Palæo.-Hib. ii. 50; *timmthastaið*, gl. *fixis labris*, *ibid.* ii. 56.

44. *dil* should perhaps be *díl* 'fated end,' echoing *din* in 43. P.O.C. has *din* .i. *crioch*: cf. IT iii. 547: IT iv. index. But I doubt whether this is really a different word from *dil* 'payment, remuneration.'

53. I read *thalman* against the mss., for the sake of the response to *adrann*.

57. *Cairenn*: mother of Niall, LL 33 b 23.

63. For *cóc* in the sense of *compitum* see Meyer, *Contribb.*

62. *tal-char* from *toil*: cf. O'R. *tolchurthanach* (i.e. *tolcharthanach*) 'self-willed.'

### MIDE.

This poem is attributed in L to Aed ua Carthaig: cf. 49.

7. Cf. O'Cl. *glan an mod* .i. *glan an fear*.

11. *roatái*: see Kuhn's Zts. xxx. 98; Meyer, *Contribb. adsiim*.

14. *fassad*, i.e. *fossad* 'truce'; apparently the fire was a symbol of peace, or the word may simply mean 'a continuing, lasting,' referring to the length of time: see O'R. *fosadh*. O'Cl. has *asadh* .i. *adannad nó lasad*, quoting this line.

18. *anfót*: cf. LL 125 b 55 *anfót do rád*.

23. *muic fmn*: explained by O'Cl. s. v. *fomm*, as *muic lachdmair mar atá cráin*.

47. The best mss. give *adfét*; and possibly Windisch is right in suggesting that *adfét* or *adfét* may be a contracted 3 pl. pres. of *adfiadaim*: though the editors of Thes. Palæo.-Hib. treat the word as singular in the passages cited by Windisch. The alternative is to read *adfiadat síidi snas* (or *a snas*); in either case *snas* probably refers to the cutting out of the druids' tongues.

51, 52. The meaning seems to be that God enjoins the king of Meath to take the poet under his protection.

## DRUIM DAIRBRECH.

THE metre of this poem must be carefully observed in determining the text. Every line ends with a disyllable: the second and fourth lines of each stanza rhyme fully; while they also contain responses and echoes to the first and third respectively.

According to the prose version, Dairbre belonged to the Aithech-Tuatha, who were defeated in the Battle of Commar by Tuathal Techtmar. It does not appear where Commar and Druim Dairbrech were situated.

The poem is ascribed in J.L. to "F.": either Fulartach or Find may be intended.

7. *bas greimm*: literally, 'that will be a strength.'

10. *cuing* seems here to mean, like the latin *jugum*, 'a hill, ridge.'

11, 12. I take Raigne to be a place-name: there is a Mag Raigne in Kilkenny (FM 859).

I can extract no sense from *mar*, the reading of the mss. in 12. I conjecture *múr*, which may easily have been corrupted under the influence of *mar* in 11. This reading also makes the position of *eath-garg* more natural. It follows that we must read *drech-deirg* in 12, against the mss., and consequently *leth-leirg* in 10, following L against all other mss.

14. *sreth-chélg*. The rendering offered is a mere guess: for *celg* 'snare' see Meyer, *Contribb.*: I take the word to denote one of those traps where a weight falls suddenly by the pulling of a string or chain; the image would be apt enough for the ambush laid by a guerilla chief.

15. According to the prose, Dairbre was son of Lulach and grandson of Ligmüne. *Tíath Ligmüne* is mentioned as one of the *Aithech-tuatha*, BB 255 a 27.

18. *noch maill*: cf. Inber Ailbine, 10.

17-24. Most of the tribes mentioned here occur in the enumeration of the Aithech-tuatha at BB 255 a 11, 19, 20, 25, 26.

20. *gád-méin* is required to rhyme with *lán-réir*: it is a compound of *gád*, 'need,' a word which is sometimes confused with *gabud*, 'danger.' The meaning seems to be that the pangs of hunger drove the *Aithech-tuatha* into rebellion.

22. *bán-dír*. The long vowels are required by the rhyme. For this use of *bán* cf. *bán-gleó*, SnR 3038, *bán-béim*, Cath Ruis na Ríg. 115.

25. *fuilid*. I have not met this form elsewhere: *fuilide* is found in SnR, and Ériu, ii. 56.

27. *mongaeh* appears to be a derivative of *mong*, 'moorland, fen,' etc., Dinneen.

30. *ní ro-n-deg-therb*, if sound, seems to mean 'he did not fortunately separate himself.'

36. *dídail* may be infinite of a compound \**di-in-dlung*. The word occurs in Thes. Palæo.-Hib. ii. 295, where it is rendered 'reproach.'

## LAGIN I.

THE incidents here alluded to are fully told in *Orgain Dind Ríg*: see ZCP iii. 1. Cobthach murdered his brother Loegaire, King of Ireland, and afterwards Loegaire's son, Ailill Aine: cf. 27. Labraid Loingsech, also called Moen, son of Ailill Aine, avenged his father by burning Cobthach at Dind Ríg, and thirty kings with him: cf. 10.

12. *cóic céit*. The verses quoted in the *Orgain Dind Ríg*, ZCP iii. 8, give the date as *trí chét mbliadan re ngein Crist*: but cf. ZCP iii. 14, where another version has *cóic [céit]*. The Four Masters make the date 542 B.C.

22. *Láigne* is properly n. pl. of *láigen* 'lance.'  $S_2$  reads *ráidter Lagin fri Laigne*, which is simpler grammar, but is unsupported.

## LAGIN II.

THE first and third stanzas of this poem are quoted by the glossator of the *Amra Columcille* in the Trinity College copy of the *Liber Hymnorum*: translated by Atkinson, *L. Hymn.* ii. 58. All three verses are translated by Stokes, *Bodleian Dindshenchas*, p. 7. The first stanza occurs again in another poem, LL 19 a 23: the second is quoted in the *Cóir Anmanna*, IT iii. 364.

There is a second copy of the poem at I.L 277 a 13, where an additional stanza is inserted after line 4:—

A tuaim Tenba traéta tuire,  
robith Cobthach in caoleuirp:  
odhin (?) ceol consmbert (?) hi bhús,  
ised (?) consert ar coibnus.

'At Tuaim Tenba chieftains were overcome; Cobthach of the lean body was slain; since by means of the music I conceived (?) here, 'tis that joined our union.' With the second couplet cp. ZCP iii. 5, 6.

14. The same number is given in the *Orgain Dind Ríg*, ZCP iii. 14: in *Lagin I.* 18 it is three thousand.

## SLIAB BLADMA.

5. *rot*. This word occurs in *Cath Muige Ratha* 40, rhyming with *eloc*, *boc*: O'Donovan renders 'daring'; cf. LL 150 b 31 *rot a ngal*. The literal meaning is perhaps 'red': Cormac, s. v. *rotta*, has *ar is rot cech nderg*. So *ruad* means both 'red' and 'fiery.'

6. *Herot*. Bury, *Engl. Hist. Review*, 1902, pp. 263-4, connects this place with the *rig Hirotae* of L. Ardm. 14 r b. In 11 the name is treated as a feminine: perhaps we should there read *Heruit*, and suppose it to be a *u*-stem of uncertain gender.

22. *ban-tolcaib* may be referred to *toile* 'pride' Wind.: but is more probably the word rendered 'breach' in IT iii. 533: cf. SnR 6767 *co toleaiþ na tor tale trén* LL 258 a 48: 101 a 13, etc. Dinneen has *tolg* 'force, effort': *tolgaim* 'I tear, smash.'

23, 24. For want of independent information as to the incident referred to, the true meaning of this passage remains obscure. *Crad* is perhaps written for *croð*, which may mean either 'cattle' or 'destruction': Meyer, *Contribb.*

27. *táinic*: singular for plural.

### FID NGAIBLI.

THE name survives in the Feeguile, a stream which joins the Barrow near Monasterevin. We have to do here with a myth imperfectly reported and consequently unintelligible. The prose says that Ainge was daughter of the Dagda; from 9 it would rather appear that he was father of the girl for whom the *drochta* was made. For parallels to the mysterious sympathy between this object and the tide, see Miss Hull's article on *Geasa* in *Folklore*, 1901, p. 51.

2. The best mss. read *fescach*, but this gives a bad rhyme.

3. *luaige* seems to be an abstract noun from *luig*: cf. *luaigim* 'I buy,' Lism. Lives, index.

6. The prose says *ní anad de thinsaitin céin nobíd in muir for linad* (cf. 11), *7 ní ticed banne ass céin ba haithbe* (LL 159 b 2). Presumably, then, *taidbe* = *aithbe*, though I have not met the word elsewhere in this sense.

7. *timme* 'abridgment'? Cf. *gan brón báis agus time saoghail d'imirt air*, (Oss. iii. 92 (quoted by Wind.): and compare with this the phrase *rothindíbsit a sághul*, IT i. 130, 19. Compare also with our passage Rath Essa 7, *cét cech mil cen lindíbe*. Cf. further LL 119 b 16; SGI 68, line 41.

9. *dogníd* for *dogníth*, answered by *gním*. *drochta*: see ZCP iii. 468. It may here mean a kind of boat.

12. *nodíled*. I have no other instance of this verb; but it seems to be connected with *díl*, *díle*.

13. *dofall*: pret. of *tallaim*.

14. *Gaible* is called *Gabol* in 1: so in the Bodleian prose he bears both names: in the Rennes version he is called *Gaible*.

19. *rotháid* seems to be pret. of a verb *táidim*: cf. *táid* 'thief,' *táide* 'stealth.'

## MAG LIFE.

It is to be noted that Life is properly the name of the plain through which the Liffey flows: the river is usually called *aba Life*.

3. *gaire* seems to mean the piety with which her memory is kept alive.

6. *chélig*. Cf. note on Rath Esa 42.

8. According to the prose, Delbhanna, son of Drucht (*i.e.* Dewdrop, son of Dew) was spencer to Conaire, and married Life.

## BERBA.

Now the River Barrow.

2. *Mag n-Ailbe* was a plain in the south of Kildare on the east bank of the Barrow: FM 906.

4. Substituting *bláth* for *bláith* of the mss., we get a response to *fáth*, and better sense.

5. The prose explains that Diancecht (or MacCecht) killed Mechi, son of the Morigain, burnt his three hearts, in which were three serpents, and cast the ashes into the Berba.

7. *athbach*, from *athbongim*, would naturally mean 'a second stroke': the meanings given by Meyer, *Contribb.*, under 1, 2, 3, seem to be approximations of various glossators. Here the meaning may be either that a 'second stroke' was not required: or, more probably, that 'recovery' was impossible. This would accord with P. O'C.'s *i.* *aithearrach* and O'R.'s 'renewal.'

9. The prose says there were 'the shapes of three serpents' in Mechi's heart: here they are the coils of a single snake.

11. *óg n-ell*. For this substantival use of *óg*, cf. *óg mo charat Lia Nothain* 31 (BB 393 b 48); *óg cána*, *Cáin Adamnáin* 29.

16. *Cúan* seems to be written for *cúain* dat. of *cúan* 'pack,' in order to answer *búan*. This gives a much better sense than can be extracted from *cúan* 'haven.'

## MOIN GÁI GLAIS.

THE incidents here referred to are told more fully in the prose.

8. *daiger* is rendered "javelin" by O'Donovan, *Magh Rath* 152. It is probably the English 'dagger,' and distinct from *daigir* 'fire' (IT iv. index).

10. *fola* for *fala*: cf. IT iv. index; M'Sweeney, *Caithr. C. C.*, p. 3, note.

11. *tola*: a. pl. of *tul*, properly the 'boss of a shield.'

12. *Aith* appears to be a proper name: none of the mss. has a mark of length over this word, nor over *tait* in 11.

13. The prose says Culdub was champion of Fiachu Sraiptine.

15. O'Cl. has *ba greit gáid* *i.* *ba gaisgeadach i ngábad*. Possibly we should write *dáim*, a word which occurs in *Cáin Adamnáin*, § 52, and may mean 'compensation' or the like.

## FAFFAND.

Of the personages mentioned in this poem, Meilge is the only one of whom anything seems to be known from other sources. He expelled his cousin Labraid Loingsech from the over kingship of Ireland: see Four Masters, *anno mundi* 4658-4694. Meilge is called "King of Beirre" (35), and "Meilge of Imlech" (24). As Broccaid is called in the prose version "Broccaid of the Galian of Labraid Loingsech," we must consider him to belong to Meilge's enemies, which explains the persecution of his family.

1. *co n-gnim giáll* 'with deed of hostages,' i.e. prowess by which hostages are won: cf. *neri-giállach* 'winning hostages by force,' LL 199 b 39.

2. *gorm-glan*. O'Dav. 1033 has *gorm .i. urdairc*: cf. *gorm-sluag*, LL 158 a 5 *gorm-rig*, Mart. Oeng.

4. For *taithme* or *taichme*, cf. Carmun 7 (LL 215 a 34) *tictis dia thaichme*, where O'Curry (MC iii. 529) renders 'came to celebrate it': Bend Boguine 2 (BB 397 a 22) *hi taichme treb tuaige*. In all these passages the mss. vary between *taichme* and *taithme*. The latter form is preferable, if the word is connected with *taithmim*, which occurs in Laws v. 322, 24 (the same passage repeated at 338, 13), where Atkinson renders 'contemplate.' *taithme* seems to be a shorter form of *taithmet* 'remembrance,' Wind.

17. *or i n-or*: cf. FM. p. 116, 16, '*ba han tra baoi críoch 7 torann Ereann or ind or*.'

22. *sernad* I suppose to be the verbal noun from O'R.'s *sernaim* 'I loose, untie': cf. Wd. *sernim* (1).

27. *cen chuisle*. O'R. has 'private affair, sorcery'; and something of this latter sense appears to be present in the passages LL 197 a 41, LL 157 b 32: in the former, it is applied to the hidden lower limbs of sirens; in the latter, to secret and magical knowledge. In the present instance, the reference seems to be to the magical arts by which Aige was transformed into a bubble of water: see prose, *ní fríth di acht bolg uisci*. Read then *co cuisle*.

31. *ní tairm cen taig*, literally 'not a fame without right.' I suppose *taig* to be a writing of *toich*.

38. The prose says, 'three blotches were raised' on Meilge by Faifne's satire: cf. LL. 81 a 40 *go tócbaitis teora bolga bar a agid, ail 7 anim 7 athis*.

39. *sethad* seems to be a genitive; but if so, I have no instance of the word: it can hardly be the same that occurs RC xv. 311 *x*, *ic sethad in buair*. O'R. has *seith*, *seitheadh* 'a skin,' 'hide'; but this is no doubt merely a misspelling of *seche*.

43. *segma*. This word is found also in BB 297 a 31 *ri segma*.

45. *rosedlad*. Cf. Rev. Celt. xvi. 44 *rosedlad buinde a sliasta* 'his shin-bone was fractured' (?) Stokes; also Tipra Sengarmna 123 (LL 197 b 52) *sedlais co saeb iarsaine Crimthand Cael*.

50. *inmasclaig* seems to be a preterite, formed presumably from \**imm-ad-con-sligim*.

51, 52. The natural syntactic order seems to be *combeth a ainm sír fri gairm in tsendumai*; but *fria* being written, anticipating the dependent genitive, the nominative in *sen-duma* is added by way of explanation, just as appositional locutions are commonly put in the nominative without regard to the case of the substantive to which they relate.

53. *tíbrí* 'laughter' seems curiously inappropriate; but I can find no more suitable meaning for the word.

## ALMU I.

ALMU, now the Hill of Allen in Kildare, was the chief stronghold of the Fianna. In the later Ossianic ballads it is usually called Albhain. For the story, see the *Fotha Catha Cnucha*, edited by Hennessy, RC II. 86, from LU, and printed by Windisch in his *Kurzgefasste Grammatik*, p. 121. See also the *Macgnimartha Find* in Oss. Soc. iv. 288; reprinted by K. Meyer, RC v. 195. FCCn agrees with this poem closely for the most part, but adds the origin and issue of the feud between Finn mac Cumail and Goll mac Morna.

Stanzas 1, 2, 4, and 5 of our poem are also found incorporated in *Acallam na Senórach*: IT iv. 36. A different couplet is, however, substituted for lines 15, 16.

13. At LL 50, 13, Tadc is called the son of Nuadu Necht; but this must be wrong, as Nuadu Necht was son of Setna Sithbacc, king of Leinster, Silv. Gad. ii. 519 (iv.) *a*, whereas our Nuadu was son of Achi, and druid to Cathair Mor (FCCn). This confusion is repeated in the document quoted in Silv. Gad. ii. 519 (iv.) *b*.

15. *almu*. At 19 we have *alamain*: cf. FCCn *rocomled alamu*.

25-28. These lines are metrically defective: *thrén*, *mun-cháem* is a bad rhyme. 26 has in the ms. a syllable too few, and 27 one too many.



31. *can chert is can chlód.* As D'Arbois points out (Rev. Celt. xxi. 247), the meaning is that Cumall neither obtained Tadc's consent, nor established his right by defeating Tadc in duel. Compare the *dindshenchas* of Snám dá Én, where Conan fights Aed Rind for his daughter Ceilg: LL 203 b 39<sup>o</sup> seq.

Luid Conán, ba crúaid in fis,  
co fuair Aed Rind ina liss,  
co rochunnig fair cert claidib  
no ingin co imdemin.

59. FCCN § 6 has "rodiúlt a athair dís ocus nír léic cucí hí, ar robo torrach hí, ocus asbert fria muntir a breoá ocus arai nír lam ammuđugud fri Cond."

60. 'them': sc. Murni and her child.

62-72. The ms. is partly illegible here; in 62 a disyllable has dropped: the meaning required is 'white, fair,' &c. In 68 b may be the first letter of *Bendron*: cf. FCCN, § 6. But in the Macgn. F., Bodmall is called a *ban-drui*: perhaps *Bendron* is a corruption of this.

## ALMU II.

THIS composition appears to be made up of scraps of different pieces tagged together.

10. *Fiann.* All texts except E read *fan*. Whether the two forms are originally distinct or no (as to which see Zimmer, Zeitschr. f. deutsch. Alt. 35, 52), they are certainly constantly confounded in our mss.: see, for example, Faffand 47. The word must here be a collective with the plural verb.

12. *gú* for *gáe* or *gái*. The forms *gó*, *góo*, *gou* also occur.

16. This is an attempt to explain the name *Almu* (acc. *Almain*) by connecting it with *ailemain*, the verbal noun of *ailim*. Other equally worthless etymologies will be found in the prose *Dindshenchas*.

## ALEND.

ALEND, now Knockaulin, in Kildare, was one of the principal strongholds of the kings of Leinster.

This poem consists principally of a string of titles by which the place might be described, in memory of various chieftains who had possessed it.

2. Art Messdelmond was son of Setna Sithbacc: see the prose version.

7, 8. Setna Sithbacc was son of Lugaid, son of Bresal Brec (Silv. Gad. ii. 519 (iv.) a).

7. For this use of *luam* 'pilot,' cf. *luam gaiscid géir*, LL 195 b 55. *letrađ caile* 'the shield was hacked.'

8. The grammar is doubtful. Perhaps we should adopt the reading *forad ua Setnai* 'the seat of the grandsons of Setna.'
9. Messdelmond, *i.e.* Art: see note on 2.
12. No doubt the person meant is Messgegra, king of Leinster, who appears in the *Talland Etair* (RC viii. 47).
16. The reading is uncertain. I know nothing of Andrithir (or Maenindir), if indeed it be a proper name.
17. Fergus Fairge was son of Nuadu Necht, and father of Ross Ruad, whose son Find is mentioned in 19: see LL 346, col. 6.
20. Bresal Bregaman is perhaps identical with Bresal Brec, grandfather of Setna Sithbacc, *Silv. Gad.* ii. 519 (iv.) a.
21. I have not found the name Luchdond among the Leinster genealogies. It is perhaps rather an epithet than a proper name. In *Fled Brirend* 22, 46, it is applied to Loegaire Buadach: Thurneysen, *Sagen aus dem alten Irland*, 35, translates 'Mäusehaut' (*luch-thond*).
25. *bethir bethrach*, so LL 146 b 19: cf. LL 247 a 16 *ruathar bethrach*, and see Meyer, *Contribb.*
30. *trét* 'herds' is here put for *slúag*.
33. Cathair Mor left Alend to Fiachu Baicid: see L. na gCeart, p. 203.
35. The mss. point to *rígu*: we should rather expect *rige* 'by his kingship.'
36. *nenaisc* 'made captive.' But why should Fiachu be fighting against the 'champions of Alend'? Perhaps the reference is to the custom of chaining the fighting ranks together, as in *Cath Muige Rátha*, p. 178: cf. Joyce, *Social History of Ancient Ireland*, i. 144.
37. Bresal Beolach was son of Fiachu Baicid: see FM 435.
41. *nodassaig*: from *adsagim*.
42. Sruthar Segsa, *i.e.* the Boyne, which rises in Sid Nechtain, RC xv. 315, 334.
48. *adclaidim* usually means 'hunt': but the prose here has *conacclaid mur*: cf. Meyer, *Contribb.*, *conclaidim*.
51. *rind* is here regarded as gen. pl.: but it is perhaps an adjective: cf. *Aed Rind* LL 203 a 30: *a rigi rabartaig rind* BB 58 a 36.



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